# THE HINDOO PATRIOT

## With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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## THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND JULY.

SOME of our morning contemporaries state that Mr. Metcalfe, Chairman of the Municipal Corporation and Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, takes leave, and that Mr. Souttar officiates for him. These gentlemen of the press seem to know more about his movements than Mr. Metcalfe himself Mr. Metcalfe we are informed has not applied for leave. The Municipality is now engaged in two most important enquiries, and as Mr. Metcalfe has got the threads in his hands he cannot in justice to himself now vacate his office. If a new man now comes in, the enquiries will have to be made *de novo*. Mr. Metcalfe may take leave at the end of the year.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has formally approved of the following Acts:

(1) Act XI of 1878.—An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Arms Ammunition and Military Stores.
(2) Bengal Act to amend Act V of 1866.
(3) Act XII of 1878.—An Act for the further amendment of the Punjab Laws Act.

IN HIS REPLY to the Government of India's letter regarding the late Surat riots, the Secretary of State expresses his full approval of the course followed by the Government of India, in establishing under the provisions of the Bombay District Police Act (Act VII of 1867, sec 16) a punitive post of 110 men in addition to the ordinary police of the city. His Lordship expresses his regret that some persons of better social position than those of whom mobs are ordinarily composed appear to have been engaged in the Surat riots. Of the officials actually concerned in the repression of disturbances the Secretary of State writes:

"Mr. Ollivant, the officer in charge of the office of District Magistrate appears to have acquitted himself, in a position of considerable responsibility, with great judgment and temper and to have been ably supported by the Superintendent of Police, Mr. Scannell. I notice too, with satisfaction, that the latter officer and Messrs. Younghusband and White, conducted themselves most creditably under very trying circumstances. I regret that two lives should have been lost, but both Police and military behaved in my opinion with firmness and patience."

THE SECRETARY OF STATE has approved of the revised rules issued by the Government of India for the regulation of grants-in-aid for the construction of churches and payments for sittings in Roman Catholic chapels at which British-born soldiers attend worship.

A BALTIMORE POET has taken advantage of modern science and the papyrograph, and prints, illustrates, sews, and publishes his works himself. What next and next?

ACCORDING to a Vienna paper, one of the mysteries in the history of precious stones has met with a partial solution. Twelve famous diamonds of the French Crown, known as "the twelve Mazarins," because they had been newly cut by Mazarin's order, disappeared after the Revolution of 1830, and no one knew what had become of them. At the recent betrothal of King Alphonso with Princess Mercedes, an Amsterdam merchant came to Madrid with twelve diamonds, which he stated himself to be commissioned to sell by an owner who wished to remain unknown. These stones, on being examined by competent authorities, were pronounced to be no other than the missing Mazarins. The question is, where have they been since their disappearance? This strange story rivals the curious history of the Tavernier blue diamond, another unfortunate French jewel.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Himalya Chronicle* gives an interesting account of Mr. H. W. F. Bolchow, the member for Middlesborough, and the head of the well-known firm of Bolchow, Vaughan, and Co. who has recently died. Mr. Bolchow was the creator of Middlesborough. He was to it what Titus Salt was to Bradford. By birth a German, he came to England early in life, and establishing himself in Yorkshire, succeeded almost from the first in making his commercial position secure. His business increased, Middlesborough grew because he was in the midst of it, and at last he had the satisfaction in recognising that he had made a town. In 1841 he was naturalised by Act of Parliament; in 1868 he received permission by another Act to sit as member. His own borough had already elected him Mayor. When it was given a vote by the Reform Bill, it returned its maker to Parliament. The moral of the story is that the enterprise of one man converted a village into a town. In Bengal we have the example of Ooterparah, which owes its rise to one family.

TUESDAY, 23RD JULY.

THE MORTUARY Returns of the N. W. P. and Oudh for May show some decrease from the totals of the previous month, but the figures are still heavy enough to attract attention. Total deaths from all causes are 136,867 against 157,326 of the previous month, and against 83,443 in the corresponding month of the former year. To small-pox is ascribed 44,469, to fevers, 67,167, to bowel complaints, 11,815, suicide 294, snake-bite and wild beasts, 239.

THE REV. F. H. Baring, in the report of the Amritsar Mission, writing of the doings of Pundit Dayanund Swami Sarasvati in the Punjab says that his endorsement of one of the chief fallacies of Hinduism, *viz*, its identification of science and religion, "makes it unlikely that the movement will be a lasting one; but at present it has taken great hold of the younger class of educated Hindus in the Punjab, and a society called the Arya Samaj has been founded with branches in Lahore and other of the principal cities of the province. As far as we know no open confession or present renunciation of the positions attacked is required, but only a mental assent to the tenets of the leader, and an endeavour to further their general acceptance when opportunity offiers; and accordingly the number of members is at present not inconsiderable. It is hardly necessary to add that the Pundit is exceedingly ignorant on all subjects outside Sanscrit literature." It may be so, but the Pundit is strong in his own subject.

IT IS intended to establish a line of steamers between China and Peru under the auspices of an American firm doing business in China. So Johnson's dream is realized.

SOME IDEA of the extent to which machine labor is used in agricultural operations in America may be gathered from the fact that a single New York company is at present turning out 140 mowing and reaping machines daily, and has orders for no less than 26,000 machines to meet the demands of the harvest season of 1878.

HERE IS a simple cure for corns. Take a lemon and roll it until soft; cut a thick slice and bind it on the corn on retiring at night. In the morning, if the corn is white and disintegrated, pull it out with your fingernails—never cut a corn. Sometimes several applications of the lemon slices will be necessary, but the corns are bound to succumb. After you remove the corns wear shoes that fit, and are not too stiff in the soles.

REMEDY FOR Ear-ache. The *Journal of Health* gives the following: Take a bit of cotton batting, put upon it a pinch of black pepper, gather it up and tie it, dip in sweet oil and insert into the ear. Put a flannel bandage over the head to keep it warm. It will give immediate relief.

A MACHINE to restore respiration has been invented. This invention consists of a sheet-iron cylinder large enough to receive the body of an adult person. It is closed at one end, and the body of the patient is inserted feet foremost, at the open end, up to the neck, round which a diaphragm is placed in such a manner as to prevent air from entering the cylinder. An air pump is then set to work, the air of the cylinder is partially exhausted, when the outer air enters through the mouth and nostrils; by reversing the pump, air is allowed to re-enter the cylinder and respiration is thereby imitated. By repeating the operation a number of times asphyxiated persons, and particularly those who have been in danger of death by drowning, have been completely restored.

BEG KULI BEG, the ex-Ruler of Yarkund, has taken refuge among the Russians in Kokand or thereabout in Russian Turkestan. The Russians have interned him, declining a polite invitation from the Chinese for his surrender.

THE ALLAHABAD High Court has delivered judgment in the great Rampore case. It involved the legality of the cession of territory to the Nawab of Rampore by the Indian Government in 1860. The Court holds that the various documents relating to the handing over of the nineteen villages in dispute leave no room for doubt that there was not merely an assignment of revenue but a transfer of territory. The circumstance that the arrangement was recorded in a *sanad* was not incompatible with a cession; for, looking at the relation in which feudatory princes stand to the paramount power in India, it was not inconsistent with the usage of the country that a grant of sovereignty or territory by the paramount power should be expressed in a *sanad*. Numerous instances are quoted in support of this; and it is added that the fact of the conditions, relating to the zemindars and their tenures, accompanying the cession did not at all affect it—such conditions being quite consistent and in accordance with precedent.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH JULY.

TASMANIA, SAYS a contemporary, is rapidly becoming a second Cornwall in the quality and extent of its tin supplies. Four years ago the value of tin and tin-ore exported from the colony was barely £7,000, while in 1877 the value of the metal sent out of the country was nearly £270,000, and the industry has received a fresh impetus in the discovery of a new lode-bearing district.

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT has ruled that if an order dismissing an officer is reversed on revision or appeal, the authority who is competent to reverse the order of dismissal, may declare that, as regards service qualifying for leave, such dismissal is in effect suspension followed by reinstatement.

MR. J. MUTHUSWAMI IYER, the Third Judge of the Madras Small Cause Court, who lately acted as District Judge of Madura, has been appointed a Judge of the local High Court. This appointment it seems has given rise to some difference of opinion. Madras ought to be grateful for the appointment made. Personal discussions are unseemly in a matter like this.

ANOTHER disagreeable squabble it is feared is likely to take place between England and America. The House of Representatives in the United States has passed a resolution asking President Haye's interposition to obtain a fresh trial of the Fenian Condon in England. This is introducing a novel feature in international relations for one nation to interfere in the administration of justice towards a criminal who is not even a subject of the State which interferes.

AMONG the exhibits in the Paris Exhibition, says the *Court Journal*, is a wonderful clock, designed and manufactured by Stephen D. Engle, a watch maker, of Hazleton, America. That journal gives the following account of it:

"At the top is an apostolic procession, the tempting Satan, Christ, the three Marys, a figure of Justice, and a golden cock that crows after Peter has passed. Three minutes before the hour (any hour in the twenty-four), an organ inside the clock plays a hymn or an anthem. It has five tunes. Bells are then rung, and when the hour is struck the apostolic march commences. Double doors in the alcove open, and a figure of Jesus appears. Double doors to the left then open, and the apostles appear slowly one by one in procession. As they appear and pass Jesus they turn towards Him. Jesus bows, the apostles turn again, and proceed through the double doors in an alcove on the right. As Peter approaches, Satan looks out of a window above and tempts him. Five times the devil appears, and when Peter passes, denying Christ, the cock flaps its wings and crows. When Judas Iscariot appears, Satan comes down from his window, and follows Judas out in the procession, and then goes back and up to his place to watch, Judas appearing on both sides. The Biblical lesson is magnificently illustrated, the figures being carved and coloured after a very old and reliable painting. After the procession has passed, Jesus and the three Marys disappear and the door is closed. This scene can be repeated seven times in an hour if necessary, and the natural motion of the clock produces it four times per hour."

FROM the report on the operations of the Money Order department just issued, it appears that, in the case of money-orders between England and India, much inconvenience is experienced from the defective addresses of payees, as furnished by remitters. Out of 44 applications from British remitters for repayments, 37 were granted by the Office and 7 refused in consequence of payment having been effected in India. Similarly, out of 11 applications for re-payment from Indian remitters, 4 have been granted, and 6 refused by the London Office; while one is still

undisposed of. Great difficulty is sometimes experienced in effecting payment of orders payable to persons on board vessels, who are constantly moving about.

WE ARE exceedingly sorry to record the death of Mr. Bachelor, Traffic Manager, East India Railway. He expired suddenly on Monday last whilst he was lunching at Messrs. Burn & Co's. It is said he was suffering from heart disease. Mr. Bachelor was connected with the East Indian Railway from almost the beginning, and was a good man of business.

WITH REFERENCE to the complaint against the Ilsoba Post Office published by us in our last issue we have received a letter, which gives the other side of the story. From personal knowledge, our correspondent is able to say, the complaint regarding the time for delivery and despatch of mails is unfounded. It is true that formerly the people of Ilsoba and its neighbourhood received letters at 9½ or 10 P. M., but they were articles received at Pandooah the day before; now the arrivals at Pandooah are received and delivered at Ilsoba on the same day. There is only one peon attached to the Ilsoba Post Office, and he has to serve 18 villages, and for the extent of his beat he delivers covers early enough, namely 1 P. M. The outward mail from Ilsoba does not leave the place at 8 P. M. but at 5½ P. M.

THURSDAY, 25TH JULY.

WE HAVE RECEIVED from the Press Commissioner the following interesting information:

"Owing to some statements that appeared in the papers the *Behar Herald*, quoted in the correspondence columns of the *Englishman* of March 1st 1878, and the *Indian Tribune* of 23rd February 1878, the attention of the Police was called to the movements of some Foreign travelling merchants in Behar, alleged to be of suspicious appearance and habits and to be selling cloth and on the credit system without making enquiry, whether their customers were men of substance or not. It was alleged at the time, that the appearance of these merchants had caused a considerable sensation in the districts visited by them. The full enquiries of the Police have, however, elicited the fact that most of the merchants referred to were Gujaratis, men of good character and well known in Gujarat and that their transactions were of perfectly *bonafide* nature. The Mogul Merchants who appeared in Mozafferpore are found to be accredited Kohaja Agents of three or four of the leading firms of Delhi, with which they have transacted business for seven or eight years. They are also residents of Guzerat and a community of pedlers or small traders well known in those parts of the country. They have lately extended their operations to the North Western Provinces and to Bengal where they were formerly unknown. They appear to work in a body, consisting of five or six men, one of whom acts as jemadar or headman and keeps the accounts. Their system is to sell on credit to the cultivators, and recover their dues when the crops are cut. They are said to remain out till April, when they return and settle their accounts with the firms from which they have received advances. The chief objection to their method of doing business is, that they are fond of using the word "Sarkari" in disposing of their cloth, it is presumed with the intention of facilitating the subsequent realisation of the price.

As regards the two merchants referred to in the *Indian Tribune*, the one a Russian, and the other a Roumanian, it appears they visited Jamalpur and other places to dispose of various articles such as artificial flowers, perfumes, &c. The Roumanian is known by the name of Mr. Pack, and has been living at *Dinapore* and other places for years.

OUR DARJEELING CORRESPONDENT sends us the following news:

You will be glad to learn that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is determined to do justice to the people of Rajshahi and Cooch Behar Divisions in fixing the Head-Quarters of those Divisions. He is decidedly of opinion that its inaccessibility, dear living and insufficient accomodation render Darjeeling wholly unfit to be the seat of the Commissioner, who, His Honor justly holds, should be easily accessible to all. The Head-Quarters must, therefore, be in the plains. There is no harm in the Commissioner's spending three or four months in Darjeeling with a small staff of ministerial officers, during the summer season. Rungpur and Dinajpur are both remarkably unhealthy. Saidpur, though geographically centrical, has no treasury and no staff of legal advisers. Julpigori and Rampur Beauliah stand next to Darjeeling in point of salubrity. The former being the terminus of the Northern Bengal State Railway is now easily accessible to all. Destruction by the late fire of the Commissioner's office stands in its way. It is rumoured that His Honor is in favour of Rampur Beauliah. It is immaterial to the public whether the Commissioner's seat be permanently located in Julpigori or Rampur, so long as it should be in the plains. The people of the Division will be ever grateful to His Honor for this move in the right direction.

WE UNDERSTAND that in consequence of the calls made on the Government of Bengal for the services of officers for duty in connection with the famine in Madras the Lieutenant Governor has been obliged to stop the grant of all privilege leave for the present.

A TRAVELLER in East Bengal sends us the following account of Dacca:

"Dacca is a very bad place. There is a Municipality here, but it is difficult to make out if any municipal work is done by it. The streets are extremely dirty and full of rats, holes, and mire in the rainy season. There is only one street, that which leads to and ramifies itself in the European quarter—which seems to have ever felt the pressure of an iron roller. There are no lights in the streets and it is unsafe to walk about in dark. Night-soil goes on accumulating in the privies and makes a Brobdingnagian privy of the whole town. This is what makes cholera both an endemic and an epidemic in certain well known quarters of the town. This grave mischief is said to be owing to the difficulty of procuring a sufficient number of mehters. If so, I should think that Dacca privies ought to be made over to Mr. Metcalfe of your own Municipality, who has proved himself quite a night-soil genius and thus given the lie to the saying, that the 19th century is an age of intellectual mediocrity. We have got water-works but no filtered water. It is all pure unadulterated Burigunga water, which seems determined not to submit to any treatment which will deprive it of its well-earned and hard-earned name. Dacca is dame dyspepsia's d——d mother. More about the place by and bye—for there is really much about it which ought to be known."

A CORRESPONDENT thus writes from Backergunge:

About 25 per cent. of the lower class people of this District who have not sufficient means of earning are starving, they cannot get their meal more than once after 2 or 3 days. Coarse rice is sold here at 12 seers per rupee, that is even kutcha seer of 60 tollas. I presume in Calcutta price is lower than here. And Backergunge is the granary of Bengal. We hope the attention of Government has been drawn to this sad state of things.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* says that the famine in Cashmere "continues very severe, and that the Punjab Government has proffered its assistance, but the authorities have declared themselves as yet equal to the occasion, and that the purchase of grain is being actively carried on by the Maharajah's agents."

WELL DOES the *Indian Mirror* ask—why does the *Lucknow Times* exist? A man like Raja Dukhinaranjun Mukerji dies in Oudh, and not a line appears in that paper about his death. Is the *Times* in such dread of Sir George Couper? The *Lucknow Times* is said to be the property of the Oudh Talukdars.

THE FOLLOWING is the weather report from Bombay: "River is very high in Sind; canals are breached in Shikarpore and Upper Sind Frontier; good rain in Guzerat, where the heat is intense: the prospects are improved in the Deccan, except in Puna, where rain is urgently required; more rain is wanted in the Southern Mahratta Country Districts; the weather at Bombay is very cloudy, close and hot."

THE MALTA CORRESPONDENT of the *Pioneer* has the following about wrestling matches among the sepoys there:

"Perhaps that which struck the Maltese as most curious, was the celebration of Native games, held on Thursday week last, in honor of the Duke of Cambridge. The arrangements were so bad, and the sports, tent-pegging, &c., so poor, that I do not think it worth while to give any account of them. But the Duke was immensely amused, and laughed very heartily at the antics played by a number of Sepoys, who, with only the usual strip of cloth on their otherwise perfectly naked bodies, went crawling and capering about in the manner usual with the Native Indian wrestler. What Indies thought of this unusual and not very decorous play, I know not; but the universal opinion is, that care should have been taken not to shock the feelings of Western civilization by such a display, and that this part of an entertainment, truly Indian and reserved in India for the amusement of male spectators only, should have been excluded from the programme.

MR. COLMAN MACAULAY, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, takes three months' privilege leave. He has well earned his rest. During his four years' connection with the Bengal Office he has shewn great aptitude for Secretariat work. Under the fostering care of Sir Ashley Eden Mr. Macaulay bids fair to develope himself into a first-rate Secretary in time.

FRIDAY, 26TH JULY.

WE ARE SORRY to learn that Sir Edwin Johnson has had a paralytic attack, which has compelled him to take six months' leave. He leaves Bombay on the 9th proximo. Lieutenant General Sir Sam Browne acts for him.

WE ARE informed, on the best authority, that there is absolutely no truth in the statement lately made by a contemporary that a project was lately entertained of sending an expedition of sixty thousand strong men from this country to Baghdad, and that no such project was ever known to the Indian Government or submitted to it for consideration.

THE RAJA OF BIJNI met Sir Stuart Bayley at Gowhatty, who received him very kindly. The Raja is a young man of great promise, and deserves encouragement.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us that the Principal of the Presidency College has issued a circular to the effect that "silver will henceforth not be received in the payment of schooling fees over the amount of Rs. 2. Students in the General Department must bring one currency note of Rs. 10 and two Rs. in silver." The rupee is a legal tender, and we cannot understand how it can be refused by the Principal of the Presidency College when it is tendered in payment of schooling fees. Mr. Tawney is a loyal man to the backbone, and is it possible that he objects to the Queen's face?

A NOTICE from the High Court warns all judicial officers in the Lower Provinces and Assam against permitting one Abdul Ali to practise as a pleader in any Civil or Criminal Court. It appears that he has for some years been practising at Chittagong on the strength of an illegal certificate given him by Mr. Beaufort, when Judge of the 24-Pergunnahs, after the High Court had disallowed his claim to be admitted as a pleader. The question is how could Mr. Beaufort fly in the face of the High Court's order?

ON LAST SATURDAY morning, Killoo Khatoo, the fanatic who murdered the head of the Khojah community in Bombay, was hanged. He considered himself a martyr and went joyfully to death. There was a very large crowd of natives present; but no disturbance took place.

THE PIONEER has been publishing a series of articles on British artists in India, from which we take the following notice of Chinnery:

"In the winter exhibition, at the Grosvenor Gallery in London there was a small portrait of George Chinnery by himself. An oldish man as there represented, with ruffled hair, rather a self-assertive nose, and an eager, ready look. He was, we believe, of Irish extraction, but appeared first in London as a portrait painter in crayons and, afterwards as a miniature painter. Towards the close of the century he was in Dublin, and was appointed a member of the Irish Academy. He seems to have reached Calcutta at the end of 1802 or the beginning of 1803. There he resided for many years, and was a favourite portrait painter amongst all classes. His style has a singular charm, bright and animated, and his colour is most pleasing. In Government House, Calcutta, there is a three-quarter length of Sir Eyre Coote by this artist, and a full length of the Nawab Sadut Ali Khan, half brother of Asaf-ud-Doula, and the best of the Oudh rulers. In the High Court, in the same city, there is a full length of Sir Henry Russell, and another Sir Francis Macnaughten: both by Chinnery."

Mr. Chinnery painted Babu Gopimohun Tagore, Babu Raindulal Sircar, and other leading native gentlemen of his day, and they are the best portraits of native gentlemen we have.

THE ROMAN CORRESPONDENT of the *Indo-European Correspondence* has the following:

"Some time ago I told you that the Florence Municipality is utterly bankrupt, having suspended payment, not only of its debts, but even of the interest on its loans. This is what we learn from the report of the Royal Commissioner who was sent to Florence when the Municipal Council was dissolved. To give you some idea of the misery entailed by this bankruptcy, I may mention that, out of the floating debt of 29 millions represented by debentures, 13 millions' worth are held by private persons, for the most parts residents in Florence. These unfortunate creditors now find themselves ruined; there is no hope of their ever recovering their capital, or ever touching a farthing of the interest which formed their revenue.

A warning for Calcutta!

SATURDAY, 27TH JULY.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Englishman* enlightens the public as to the status of certain members of the Mysore Family. A woman married into the family, if she happens to be a royal descendant, is called a Begum, if otherwise a Bibi; the son of the former is called a Shazada, and by the latter Sahebzada.

IT IS STATED that Mr. Arthur Wilson, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law, has been appointed a Judge of the High Court, *vice* Mr. Justice Markby. Mr. Wilson was called to the Bar on the 11th June 1862, and obtained a certificate of Honor in January 1862, and practised on the South Eastern Circuit.

GOALUNDO is again threatened. The Padma has overflowed, and burst the bund near Amla Pura, laying a large area of ripening crops under water. The Post Office and school-houses are described as being completely surrounded by water, as also the Magistrate's bungalow and the lodgings of the amla.

BABU KUNJOLAL BANNERJEA, 2nd Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court, has drawn attention to the invidious distinction made between Christian and Native suitors in the Court in the hearing of their cases. The Judge objected to a Native Christian having a precedence of other natives. But we go further. Why should there be any distinction at all? The High Court makes no such distinction. Why should not the cases be set down for hearing according to the order of their institution, irrespective of the race and religion of the suitors?

JESSORE is getting an unenviable notoriety for Police oppression. We noticed the other day a case of abuse of power by the Jessore Police. This morning's *Statesman* reports another case of a fearful torture, in which the men concerned, we are glad to notice, have got their deserts. One of them has been sentenced to 7 years' and the other to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment respectively.

A PICTURE OF HIGH LIFE IN ENGLAND. We take the following from the London letter of the *Indian Daily News*:

"The Aylesford divorce case, which has been before the Court of Divorce this week, has excited much interest here. Lord Aylesford, the petitioner, was only a young man of two-and-twenty, when in the year 1871 he married his present wife in the person of Miss Williams, a daughter of Colonel Williams. The marriage from the very first appears to have been an unhappy one. Ere Lord Aylesford had been married six months, he was, it seems, in the habit of going almost nightly to Cremorne Gardens, and of staying there until the place closed at one o' clock. On Wednesday last Lord Aylesford, I must say, appeared to feel his position acutely as servants from disreputable houses in Pimlico, and barmaids from Cremorne appeared in Court, and identified him as having been in the habit of frequenting almost nightly their abodes. As your readers will remember, the end of the married life of Lord and Lady Aylesford was that whilst Lord Aylesford was with the Prince of Wales in India Lady Aylesford eloped with the Marquis of Blandford, the eldest son of the Duke of Marlborough. It was not denied in Court that Lady Aylesford had committed adultery with



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Lord Blandford. The question in dispute was whether Lord Aylesford had not condoned his wife's misconduct by having himself been guilty of adultery before his wife's elopement with some of the "fast" women of Cremorne and Pimlico and also after Lady Aylesford's departure with Mrs. Dilike, a daughter of Lady Dixil. In the end, the jury found that Lord Aylesford had committed adultery before his wife left him, so that his lordship's application for a divorce was dismissed. The jury also found that Lady Aylesford had committed adultery.

UNKNOWN to Government the abolished rural registrars are being subjected to some hardship. Justice requires that they should be provided for first whenever there is a vacancy, and that those who have the best claims should have the first preference But this is not always done. Here is a case in point. Babu Peary Mohun Das was rural registrar of Egra in Midnapore. This officer had built a fire-proof house for his office under orders at his own expense to the amount of some four-hundred rupees, but the office being abolished his money is gone. He is an applicant for the sub-registarship of Sabang in the same district, which has lately become vacant, but it is proposed to give this office to another person, whose claims are said to be much inferior to his own. If the Inspector General of Registration will look into the statement of his claims, he will be able to see whether this applicant is not entitled to some consideration.

OUR CORRESPONDENT at Bhulpore writes to say that there has been incessant rain there since Sunday last and cultivation is progressing apace. The neighbouring villages have not been so fortunate.

THERE were 190 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 20th July, of which 15 were from small-pox, 66 from fever, 21 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 9 from cholera, 22 from tetanus. Seven children were still-born and only two persons died from old age. Of the 190 dead 3 were non-Asiatics and 7 of the mixed races.

TELEGRAPHIC information from Jacobabad states that on the 14th instant Kushmore bund was breached for 300 feet, at the 7th mile above Bigari mouth, and the breach has gradually widened. The water has to a great extent been drained into the Bigari, which has been breached on the south bank. The river is strong and bearing hard on the bund. Part of that and Kushmore taluks of Jacobabad district are flooded. No danger to Jacobabad is at present apprehended.

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1 Parliamentary Blue-book containing papers relating to the Vernacular Press Act, 1878. 2 Remarks on the Vernacular Press Law of India, by John Dacosta, London, 1878. 3 Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, vol. 47, Part 2, No. 2, 1878. 4 Journal of the National Indian Association No 91, July 1878. 5 The Indian Magazine for April and May 1878. 6 Paper of information for Indian Gentlemen proposing to study in England issued by the National Indian Association. 7 Statement by the Boden Professor of Sanskrit after his second Indian journey regarding the proposed Indian Institute at Oxford. 8 Dutta's Homœopathic Series in Bengali No. VII. 9 Kusum Kulap or Poems in Bengali. Bharat Mihir Press, Mymensing 1878. 10 Kubita or descriptive pieces in Bengali verse, by Jadubendra Banerjea. 11 Rughu Bungsa in Sanskrit and Hindi published under the auspices of Raja Luchmun Sinha of Hatwa. 12 Resolutions of Government of India regarding Forest School, Low Fares on Railways, and Inspection of State Railways.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

*London 23rd July.*—The disbanding of the reserves is ordered for the 31st instant. An amnesty has been proclaimed at the Cape.

*23rd.*—Lord Hartington's motion is postponed until the 29th. Lord Beaconsfield has been created a Knight of the Garter. In the Commons Colonel Stanley said it was not intended to add the Indian Contingent in Cyprus to the permanent forces of the kingdom, and that they will remain there on the same footing as when at Malta. It is not intended to fill their places in India. Lord Cranbrook, in the Lords, replying to a question, admitted the failure of the famine relief in Mysore at the outset, in consequence of the great strain on the Government. He promised to submit estimates of the mortality, but said that they must be inaccurate as it was impossible to obtain trustworthy information. Sir Garnet Wolseley has arrived at Cyprus.

*23rd.*—Lord Beaconsfield has been invested at Osborne by the Queen. Sir Garnet Wolseley has issued a Royal Proclamation promising reforms in Cyprus and the promotion of prosperity. Major General Foster succeeds Sir Garnet Wolseley in Indian Council.

*24th.*—The Marquis of Salisbury has been created a Knight of the Garter. The Commons have negatived Mr. Gladstone's motion on the Vernacular Press Bill by 208 against 152. Particulars will follow.

*25th.*—A select Committee of the House of Commons has been appointed to enquire into the transport arrangements, and employment of Indian troops abroad.

*25th.*—The *Times* announces that the reforms required by England in the Asiatic provinces of Turkey are fixity of tenure of the office of governors; competent judges and efficient police; and the abolition of farming taxes.

*26th.*—The House of Commons have agreed to an annuity for Prince Arthur of 10,000 pounds; a dilatory amendment by Sir C. Dilke, inquiring for precedents, was rejected by 320 against 33 votes. Parliament will be prorogued on the 20th August. The Pope meditates sending a pontifical internuncio to England, The agitation in Italy is subsiding. Consols, 95¼.

*Constantinople, July 26.*—The Turks have evacuated Shumla which the Russians have occupied. The Porte has consented to the Austrian occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina until order is restored, military replacing civil authority.

*London, July 27.*—Government has disclaimed any intention of dissolving Parliament in the Autumn The Pan Anglican Synod has closed. The Bishop of Bombay advocated habitual confession.

*Rome, 23rd July.*—Democratic meetings were held yesterday at Rome, and the principal towns throughout Italy urging the Government to claim Trieste, and the Tyrol from Austria.

The Italian Press deprecate agitation respecting Trieste and Tyrol, fearing serious complications. The Italian Ministry have made representations to Austria, disavowing any connection with the movement.

## INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., on *Thursday* the *1st August* at 7½ P. M.

*Subject*: Elliptical and Circular Polarisation.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on *Saturday* the *3rd August* at 4½ P. M.

*Subject*: Compounds of Nitrogen and Oxygen.


# The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 29, 1878.


## THE INDIA COUNCIL ON THE VERNACULAR PRESS ACT.

WE received by the last mail the Parliamentary Blue-Book containing the official papers relating to the Vernacular Press Act. We observe that three dissents were recorded against the despatch of the Secretary of State; they are the most important State papers that have appeared from the India Office for a long time past; we regret we cannot give them *in extenso*, but we propose to give copious extracts from them, reserving our own comments for future issues. We will begin with Sir Erskine Perry's dissent. Sir Erskine has always been in the van of progress in India, and with his increase in years his faith in the law of progress has increased. Sir Erskine Perry thus begins his minute:

I consider that the Vernacular Press Act is such a retrograde measure, so much opposed to the large and liberal policy which we have pursued in India for the last fifty years, and so likely to irritate the Natives by brandishing before them invidious distinctions of race, that I think it my duty to struggle to the utmost to get it expunged from the Satute Book.

Three questions arise upon the draft Despatch giving sanction to the Act, and it is desirable to keep them distinct.

(1.) Did any urgent necessity exist for passing this measure at a single sitting?

(2.) Is the Act in itself a measure that ought to remain a portion of the permanent legislation of India?

(3.) Under the sanction given by the Secretary of State to the telegram of March 13th ult for the introduction of the Bill, is there anything to preclude the Secretary of State and Council now from giving full expression of their opinion as to the different clauses of the measure?

Sir Erskine discusses these points *seriatim*. With regard to the first point he says:

The subject of restrictive regulations on the Press is much more a European than an Indian question; and the Council of India is a more competent body than the Council of the Governor-General to decide impartiallly on the restrictions that should be imposed on the free criticism of official acts. The unanimity in behalf of the present measure amongst Indian officers is much relied upon, but sensitiveness under a tropical sun to harsh, unjust, and often mendacious strictures in the Press amongst zealous and comparatively young officials is no more than might be expected. Under all despotic governments the disposition to shackle the Press has prevailed. Increased age, and experience of the little harm done by Press attacks when the measures of Government are sound in themselves, produce a more robust temperament and a greater disposition to tolerate minor evils than when they are the necessary accompaniments of larger benefits.

It will be observed also that the only two officers in high place in India who have formed their political convictions under the bracing climate of England, the Duke of Buckingham and Sir Arthur Hobhouse, were strongly opposed to this measure.

The Legislative Council of India on the 14th March last consisted of 16 members, 12 of whom were officers of Government, and the remainder Government nominees, but there was only one native member present. The unanimity of Council on such a subject does not carry much weight.

But, important as is the question of procedure adopted towards this Act, it sinks into comparative insignificance by the side of the main inquiry, whether the measure is one that ought to form a part of the permanent legislation of India?

If the statute is good in itself, and is necessary for the maintenance of the public tranquillity, it would be ungenerous to Lord Lytton's Government to bring forward prominently objections to his manner of doing what is right. The statute proceeds on three main principles:—

(1.) Power to demand security from newspaper proprietors not to publish articles likely to excite disaffection.

2.) Establishment of a censorship.

(3.) Power to seize newspaper plant, &c. &c. after warning.

The Act is thus assimilated to the procedure adopted by the two Napoleons in France, and it incorporates the very stringent provisions of the Irish Coercion Act of 1870,—a temporary measure, passed to meet a temporary evil, and dropped by the present Government in 1874. But the new Indian Act omits the remedies against any abuse of authority, which the Irish statute carefully provided. It must be admitted that no Imperial legislator could forge a more powerful weapon for extirpating an obnoxious Press.

Sir Erskine does not assert that no amendment of the Indian Press law is necessary. He says, "I cordially supported Lord Salisbury when he called the attention of the Government of India to articles in the Native Press justifying the attempted murder of Col. Phayre by the Gaekwar." If the present law is not sufficient to meet such a case, it ought to be strengthened. He adds, "and some simple summary procedure, with petty fines, coupled with the exaction of moderate security from every publisher of a newspaper, would, in my opinion, be amply sufficient to correct all the abuses now brought to our notice by the Indian Government." But he considers the new law as "a decided step backwards in the large and liberal policy which we have deliberately adopted as our system of government." Regarding the writers of the Vernacular Press Sir Erskine remarks:

"The writers, for the most part, are distinguished neither by ability nor by position in society. Indeed, some of the most offensive articles have been traced to boys at school. The only native gentleman who has given an opinion (and that a very hesitating one) on the act—the Maharaja Jotindra Tagore,—says "educated natives do not even knew of the existence of most of these papers. It is," however, I believe, a known fact that much of this class of writing proceeds from folly and a species of bragga locio rather than anything else." This last remark I consider to be a most just piece of criticism. By granting freedom of the press to a population for whom we have opened for the first time the gates of knowledge, we have as it were placed edged tools in the hands of children, which they are using recklessly, not knowing the danger they may cause. Sedition is not at the bottom of their movements, but ignorance. But it is said, systematic vituperations of the Government, even if not guided by seditious motives, when addressed to the ignorant masses, may have most pernicious effects. Have they produced any such effect? This is denied in emphatic terms by the most strenuous supporters of the bill, by Sir Ashley Eden and others. If then, as the case is, it is only a future and not a present danger that is anticipated, I maintain that the occasion has not arisen for applying such a violent and exceptional measure as the Irish Coercion Act.

It must be observed that we are called upon, and the Legislature of India was called upon, at a moment's notice, to reverse the policy which has prevailed in India for the last fifty years. No question was ever more deliberately decided, or by men of higher mark, than that of the establishment of a Free Press in India. It is a very grave question, upon which statesmen may well differ. Logically there would appear to be great inconsistency in principle between a despotic government and a Press permitted to criticise and abuse every act of government. Some of the ablest men in India, Sir Thomas Munro, for example, urged in the most forcible language in 1822 the propriety of shackling the Press. But all arguments founded on such views were fully weighed and considered by the Government of India in 1835, and the conclusion arrived at was that it was wise and expedient as well as generous to remove all restrictions from the Press, native as well as English.

Freedom of the Press did not originate, as is sometimes supposed, under Sir Charles Metcalfe in 1835. It had grown up spontaneously under the Government of Englishmen, accustomed to the expression of free thought at home; and although many restrictions existed in Indian law for curbing the Press, they had for many years fallen into disuse.

What the Indian Government did in 1835 was this: Finding that the Indian Press was practically free, and that in certain parts of India restrictive provisions existed on the statute-book which enabled Government to suppress at will any obnoxious newspaper, and that these provisions were never acted upon they determined on full consideration to remove all these restrictions, and the celebrated law of 1835 was passed.

The very same arguments that are now adduced in behalf of the present legislation were brought forward then, and were deliberately overruled. It was said that although the English Press might not need a curb, the Native Press was under different conditions, and might at any time cause great danger to the State by breathing disaffection and sedition amongst the ignorant masses.

Colonel Morison, a member of the Government of India, proposed the addition of a clause declaring that the Government will retain the power of instantly repressing any publication if *it should* at any time appear to risk the safety of the State.

How did the great men who then swayed the Government of India deal with these views?

Sir Erskine then quotes the opinions of Lord Macaulay and other members of the Governor General's Council, who unanimously passed the Free Press Act of 1835. But what has occurred since, he asks, which justifies this retrograde measure? He says, "I maintain, unhesitatingly, having watched it for more than 30 years, that good has greatly pre-

ponderated over evil." He confesses he has great confidence in Lord Lytton, but he remarks:

But I say with Lord Metcalfe, I know not what Governor General may succeed Lord Lytton. I have personal reasons for knowing what action a Governor General may take when armed with despotic power, if a newspaper article displeases him. I have been induced by the present inquiry to look back into Hansard; and I find in 33 Parliamentary History, 1313, an example of a Governor General being so horror-struck with a harmless squib that appeared in a London paper, that he succeeded in persuading the House of Lords to commit the poor printer and proprietor to Newgate for three calendar months, and to fine them 50*l.* each. The newspaper was the *Morning Chronicle*, and the editor was my father.

The case, in my opinion, for a stringent Press Act, completely breaks down; and although I have arrived from long experience at the conclusion that the abuses of the Press are best corrected by the Press itself, and that it is generally wise on the part of Government to abstain from any crusade against it, I am ready to admit that a more simple remedy than that afforded by the present article in the Penal Code may be required. It is not an easy task to frame such a law; for the principal offensiveness of the Native Press consists, as the Duke of Buckingham has well pointed out, in their statements of unpalatable truths in strong language. Still, no doubt, a satisfactory measure could be passed, after full communication between the Home Government and India.

Sir Erskine then refers to Lord Salisbury's assent to the Vernacular Press Act by telegraph, and justly holds that that assent given under a pressing representation of emergent political necessity ought not to bind the India Office when it is found on examination that that necessity did not or does not now exist. He writes:

A retrograde and ill-conceived measure, injurious to the future progress of India, and inconsistent with all our past policy, is to be allowed to remain permanently on the statute book, because at a moment of supposed urgency, when no consideration of the subject was possible, the assent of the Secretary of State was, as I may say, extorted by telegraph. It is impossible, in my opinion, for any Secretary of State to withhold his assent from any action that the local authorities on the spot may deem urgently necessary for the safety of the State; and Lord Salisbury could not do so on the 13th March last. Now that the whole case is before us, and that we are given a full opportunity for considering what the true interests of India and the generous principles laid down by our great predecessors require, I maintain, that the decision of the Secretary of State should be passed solely with reference to these considerations.

When the Governor General states that the increasing sedition of the Press was distinctly provoking to rebellion, and that at that moment the Vernacular Press was specially dangerous, who could tell in this office or in this country what emergency was at hand, what insurrection was on the point of breaking out? No one would have been justified in advising the Secretary of State to withhold his assent at such a moment of possible danger. When the telegram of the 13th March arrived in this country Lord Salisbury circulated it amongst such members of the Council as were at office. Only two remarks were made,—the one highly approving of the measure, the other suggesting that the application of Napoleonic Press laws to India required grave consideration.

It will be seen from the above under what circumstances the Secretary of State's previous assent was obtained. Sir Erskine Perry thus concludes his dissent:

Conscious of the rectitude of our intentions, and strong in the possession of our power, although the forms of constitutionalism do not and cannot exist under an Asiatic Government, we concede to every dweller under our rule the greatest boon that civilized man can possess, the power of freely expressing his opinions. This boon is thoroughly appreciated by the inhabitants of India. It is also of inestimable benefit to ourselves; for, ignorant as we are, and necessarily must be, of much that is seething in the native mind, of suffering that our most carefully devised institutions may cause, of grievances never uttered to official ears, an unshackled Native Press, with all its shortcomings and all its imperfections, is the only vehicle for affording the information so indispensable to good government.

It is, in my opinion, the duty of a member of Council who entertains such strong convictions on the subject as I do fully to express them even to weariness. For I must observe, in conclusion, that the principal danger in our government of India appears to me to arise from the instability of our policy.

We are governing the most conservative people in the world, and we are continually irritating them with sudden changes.

The hastiness with which decisions are arrived at without the least reference to former deliberations and decisions is amazing. Power over Indian institutions is vested in the hands of one man, or of two or three men, and a telegraphic communication between the Viceroy and the Secretary of State may change in a single day, as we see in the present case, the policy that has prevailed for half a century. But the holders of power in India are a very transitory body; there is a complete change of administration every five years. In this country the average tenure of office by a Secretary of State does not amount to three years. In the 20 years that have elapsed since the passing of the Act of 1858 we have had at least seven Secretaries of State. It is only in some body like the Council of India that any stability of purpose, or knowledge of the past policy of Government, can be found. The constitution of the Council was, in my opinion, much weakened by the 32 & 33 Victoria, c. 97, which passed through Parliament without discussion; but it still remains as a body of independent and experienced men, entirely removed from the sphere of party politics, who are enabled to devote their whole lives to the very difficult problem of the Government of India, and to speak out what they believe to be truth.

Noble words these, fit to be engraved in gold! Sir William Muir has also recorded a dissent. We extract the following remarkable passages from his minute:

In the first place, a despotic law of the kind is only to be justified by some imminent risk or danger (as in 1857), and then only as an exceptional and temporary measure. No ground is shown for the apprehension at the present time of any such danger. India was never quieter or more secure; and, even under the pressure of new taxation, was never more amenable to the Imperial power. The Eastern question only served to evoke manifestations of dislike towards Russia; and even our unfortunate relations of late with Caubool failed to elicit sympathy with the Ameer. There was absolute tranquillity throughout the land. The thunderbolt startled the nation, falling as it did on the Press from a serene and cloudless sky.

Nothing is more frequently or emphatically reiterated throughout the evidence than the impotence of the press, even where it is most strongly characterized by misrepresentation and disloyalty. Whence then this sudden scare? and why this telegram of danger which induced the Secretary of State, without the opportunity of even consulting his Council, in one single day, to sanction a measure reversing the policy of 40 years?

Had any reasonable presumption of danger been established, no one could have objected to a law of even greater stringency; but then it should have been exceptional, and enacted only for a time.

In its normal condition, and as such at the present time, the Government of India stands in little need of such despotic power. The press no doubt is often puerile, and sometimes (in a political sense) licentious. Its attacks upon the Government have been frequently characterized by unscrupulous perversion of the truth and in the last few years (especially in the Bombay Presidency) sometimes by articles of downright disloyalty. There must be a limit to such hurtful misrepresentation; and I quite agree with Sir George Campbell that the Government should have in its hand a more certain and summary curb. For this end, the demand of security may be a reasonable and salutary measure. But the power of forfeiture, and still more the closure of a press, instead of being left to the arbitrary fiat of the executive, should be confided to an independent tribunal. There is no excuse for constituting Government the final and irresponsible judge in its own case. Without going this length it would have been easy to improve the law; to have laid down the limits of legitimate discussion, and constituted a judicial referee or court, which, after opportunity given the accused for explanation should have been empowered to decide whether those limits had been transgressed. A short and effective procedure would have obviated the eclat and other evils of protracted trial. And all this might have been accomplished by constitutional checks, without impairing the reasonable liberties and independence of the press.

Nothing of the kind has been done. The Gordian knot has been rudely cut; and the Press, reduced to absolute subservience, is thus shorn of its virtue as an independent organ for the exposure of abuses, the discussion of remedial measures, and the setting forth of native feeling. However carefully watched by the Supreme Government, the attitude of the Local authorities, wherever impatient and nettled by personal strictures, or intolerant of native sentiment and prejudice, will suffice to crush by anticipation free writing, and thus emasculate the press. I submit that, with the view of promoting enlightenment and progress, creating a healthy public opinion interesting the people in matters of internal administration, and thus of gradually educating them to self-government in their own affairs, it is for the good of the British Government, no less than for the well-being of the people to foster a free and independent Press. The Government has deliberately cast aside a valuable help, and the most effective means for elevating and strengthening the national mind.

Sir William protests against the invidious distinction drawn between the English and the Vernacular Press, but at the same time admits that it will not be wise to curb the English press. He asks:

"Are we then to close our Schools and Colleges, and retrace our steps into the security of ignorance? Those are at any rate logical in their reasoning who support the new legislation (as has in fact been done by a high Functionary in the correspondence now before the Council) on the ground that "we have already gone too far in the direction of so-called pregress" and that "we have carried State education too far." Men who write thus are at least consistent in their advocacy of this Act. But such happily is not the policy of the Government of India, with its grand traditions of a Thomason and Canning. How can we then with one hand encourage education and the spread of knowledge, and with the other deliberately close the openings which admit the light?"

We hope Sir George Couper will appreciate the compliment paid to him.

Sir Henry Yule has recorded a minute that does credit to both the head and heart of the writer. He thus begins:

"Doubtless, early action in check to the seditious tone of a part of the Native Press was necessary; and experience might have proved such action to demand a modification of the law.

This is not a modification of the law. It is a suspension of the law. Martial law has been defined by a high authority to be the will of the General commanding. The Press law under this Act is practically the will of the Governor-General.

The Viceroy urges that persons who regard the policy of this law as retrograde will be uninformed as to the facts, and without knowledge of the people.

The members of this Council can hardly be so characterized. Whatever individual members may think of the necessity of the Act, is there one who doubts its being retrograde?

Let us at least get rid of disguises. They are so rife in these papers that their existence alone would suffice to raise doubts of the quality of the measure, were that otherwise less disputable; *e. g.*, we are told that the object of the Government is not punishment but prevention. Does our law hang them because the Legislature likes people to be hanged?

Again, we are told that the new Act does not touch the liberty of the press, but only the license of the press. The speeches in this tone at the Legislative Council in support of the Bill contain hardly anything that might not have been honestly adopted by an Austrian governor of Lombardy, *i.e.*, by the agent of a Government that was intolerable to the best class of its subjects.

There are two decent ways of governing a dependency like India.

There is the Dutch way; anyhow as it used to be when I saw it. This looks, first of all, to the remittance home of an ample surplus; it cares little or nothing for what we call moral progress among the people; they are by no means ill treated, but are treated as children, or as the serfs of a tolerably good-natured lord; there is never a pretence of letting them forget that they are the conquered race. Politeness to the white man, and sometimes hospitality, are exacted; tidiness of cottages and fences is enforced. It is not a bad system as it impresses a stranger. Our own results are apt to impress him by no means so favourably. Yet our ideal at least is the nobler one. Like most things English, it has grown out of a strange compost of events and influences; but the result has been for many years past a Government as sincere and zealous in its desire for the benefit, progress, and enlightenment of the people who have been committed to its rule, as ever existed on the earth; a Government which has steadfastly (in the apt phraseology of the Despatch) sought to confer benefits upon Her Majesty's subjects in India by the establishment of institutions more or less resembling those of this country. This has been our course, say, roughly since the renewal of the Company's Charter in 1814, or at any rate for half a century past. It is a rash and questionable thing suddenly to change this course. It is too late to take up the Dutch system; and if we are going to try a little of both, grief only can befal us.

It is vain to say, as we have heard it said, that this measure will leave you all the good of a free press without the evils. That is not in the nature of things. If it becomes really a question between a free press and our hold of India, I am certainly not going to say "Perish India!" but quite the opposite. There has, however, been no proof that the alternative is before us now. If the time is to be called a time of crisis in India because of the Russo-Turkish war, you will never again be out of "crisis." A new network of sensitive electric nerves is spreading over the face of the earth. We shall never again have peace in the sense of the past.

Most of the offending paragraphs quoted by the Government of India are indeed very unpleasant reading. But a considerable proportion of these are only, as the Duke of Buckingham has said, the utterance of unpalatable truths in strong language. It is not good for us that the utterance of those truths should be suppressed. It has been said in this discussion that a free Press is the correlative of a Parliament and that the one has no possible root without the other. If there is an element of truth in this there is at least as much in the view that a free Press may be the needful substitute for a Parliament where Parliament is impossible.

Some, again, of the passages cited are really, as the Despatch says, intolerable; full of spiteful and seditious falsehood; and if they have no deeper root of malignity are at least, according to Lord Lytton's happy comparison, like the acts of mischievous urchins who lay stones on the rails before a train. But the freedom of the Press would be an absurdity in any country if it were inconsistent with the restraint and punishment of such utterances. There is a just distinction between the Liberty of the Press and License. But what some supporters of the Act, both in India and in the Council seem to me to have overlooked is that the line between these must be drawn by Law, and its transgresion judged by a regularly constituted Court. Where the judgment is arbitrary, and in the hands of the Executive, it is idle to talk of Liberty of the Press. If the Law as it exists prove unworkable let it be amended. No one here has supported the view that the only course open to the Government was this sudden and undebated countermarch of the whole course of British policy in regard to this important matter.

Sir Henry continues:

I now desire to say something as to the manner in which the Act has been passed. Allusion is made in the papers to the exhaustive discussion which the measure had undergone. I find no such exhaustive discussion in the proceedings of the Legislative Council. The votes and opinions there recorded are all on one side, and unanimous in favour of the measure. I can only marvel at this unanimity in the discussion of a question, not only of great moment, but of admitted difficulty, and the issue of which was to be a reversal of the policy of half a century. There is certainly no such unanimity at the Council table here on this question.

Moreover, when the Viceroy's minute and other important papers were circulated to the provincial Governments, it would seem that Sir Arthur Hobhouse's very able minute in deprecation of such a measure as has now been passed was not communicated to them. This very likely, may have been oversight, owing to intermediate occurrences. But the general impression produced by the facts is that it was not so much agitation of the public mind that the Government of India desired to avoid; it was independent discussion.

The measure, then, I urge in conclusion, is not good in itself; that is to say, it is a suspension of law, and a revolution in policy, without proof, without trial whether the ordinary process of law, with or without amendment, would not suffice to check the pernicious tone adopted by certain Native papers. And the measure assumes an aspect which still less commends itself, in the light of the unusual circumstances which have attended its enactment; circumstances calculated to bar discussion, even in this Council, till too late.

It has been said in Council that to veto the Act would be fraught with political danger. No one of those members who have expressed disapproval of the measure has suggested such a step. It is impossible; the deliberate action of the Government of India has left no choice, no power to counsel rejection, where eminently there ought to have been such choice and power. We have indeed been placed in a difficulty by the assent which Lord Salisbury, under the pressure and urgency of the Viceroy's telegram of 14th March, accorded by telegraph; but the difficulty arises from no act of ours. Even in this position of affairs some of us ventured to think that the Despatch, without going back from Lord Salisbury's assent, might have noticed more distinctly the singularity of the course taken in the presentation of the measure, might have been still more cold in its review of the measure itself, and might have sug-

gested a positive limit of time to its operation, a modification which might have been introduced along with that as to the censorship which Lord Cranbrook's draft actually enjoins.

One word more. History will easily afford instances of privileges, such as are in question, too hastily conceded; perhaps the older history of this very matter of the Indian Press affords one of these. But there are also abundant examples of the deplorable consequences of attempts to retract such privileges after they had been conceded. And I cannot remember any instance in which a Government making such a retractation has not in the end had cause to rue the fact.

So there is hope for India! These minutes, coupled with the debate in the House of Commons on Mr. Gladstone's motion, shew that there is at least a class of public men in England in whose heart India's welfare stands uppermost —who nurtured in the noble traditions of their fatherland warmly advocate the diffusion of the blessings of Western civilization in the distant dominions of England, and who regard England's mission in the East to be to enlighten and elevate the masses of India and not to bury them in ignorance and repress their manly and generous aspirations.

In conclusion we would suggest to the promoters of the agitation against the Vernacular Press Act the propriety of translating the above Dissents into the several Vernaculars of India and circulating the same extensively. Such a translation would be a fitting honor to the noble authors of these noble Dissents.

## INDIAN OFFICIALDOM ON NATIVE PUBLIC OPINION.

BLESSED be the Parliament of England! What the feeble public opinion of all India could not achieve, a single motion in Parliament has effected. We had in vain cried for the publication of the minutes which preceded the enactment of the Vernacular Press Act, but a few words of Sir George Campbell in the House of Commons have placed them at the disposal of the public. These minutes are very edifying. It would seem that opinion was divided among the provincial governors as to the character of the Vernacular and English Press in India. Some were of opinion that the English press was worse than the Vernacular press, and would therefore gag both. Thus Mr. Morris, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, wrote: "While it is perfectly true that the seditious writing of the Native Vernacular Press affects the people more widely and more really than that of the Native English Press, yet it can scarcely be doubted that the libellous and injurious attacks made by the latter on Government officers are sometimes more virulent, and often not less vexatious, than those of the former, and against these there should be provided some more easy and certain remedy than lies in a suit for damages against a nominal proprietor." Sir R. J. Meade, Resident at Hyderabad, says, "the tone of some of the English or English and vernacular, journals, edited by natives, is almost, if not quite, as objectionable as that of the pure Vernacular Press, and it may be found necessary hereafter to extend the proposed measures to the former. It is to be lamented that English journals set so bad an example in this respect, for the articles that occasionally appear in them, if put in the Vernacular, and transferred to the columns of a native paper, would often be found as objectionable as any from a purely native pen." Mr. W. Jones, Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned districts, remarks:

"I have one proposal—it will perhaps appear a strange one—to add to those of the minute, viz., that whatever power may be conferred on Government to prevent attacks made against itself, the same powers should be reserved to it in respect of attacks made on the sovereign Princes of India. This suggestion is chiefly directed against the English Press and, if adopted, would do something to remove the appearance of class legislation, which steps directed against the Native Press must inevitably wear. It would not be difficult to adduce, from leading English papers, articles far more likely, in my judgment, at least, to imperil our rule than anything any native editor ever wrote. Native Chiefs must be, and are, most sensitive to charges of disloyalty, and to threats of steps to be taken in behalf of British interests. A good tincture of Chauvinism is probably a good thing in the British Press, but the license of attack in which it often indulges is, to my mind, a positive danger. We cannot expect Native Princes to retaliate in our law courts, even if the law admitted of their doing so; and the duty of protecting them appears to lie with especial weight on a Government which in its capacity of paramount power, is constantly asserting its claim to their loyal allegiance. If the Native Press is to be allowed to exist, it ought to be encouraged in every legitimate way. To permit it to exist, and to be hostile to it, is a very impotent attitude to take up. I should like to see the effect of a C. S. I. on some of the *Daily Telegraphs* in India, and I would make civil officers see that a man who has the energy and ability to conduct a paper is a man whom our Government should, in its own interests, recognise. Nothing, in my experience, shuts an editor's mouth like a little confidence. These men are not wholly bad. Many of them I am convinced, commence their career with a sincere desire to benefit their fellow-countrymen. Their good impulses are no doubt mixed up with others of a baser kind; but if we would make the best of them, we must recognise their position, and assume that their objects are good, until the contrary is indubitably proved. In short, while advocating greater severity in the law, I would also advocate a more sympathetic and appreciative attitude towards those against whom the law is directed. I believe, too, that without being unduly sanguine, we may look forward to the time when the Native Press will have less opportunity to assail us that it has now. The memory of past political aggressions will, it may be hoped, grow fainter. Government is doing much to cut away from under the feet of editors their other two legitimate topics of attack, viz., the exclusion of natives from high office and the differences in the treatment of natives and Europeans, which still occasionally disgrace the administration of our laws.

The Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs of the Bombay Council says: "I would, as regards the English Press, not make any exception in the Act, but, as proposed by His Excellency the Viceroy, would put in a section giving Government the power to apply the Act to the Press of such parts of India or such classes of papers as may be from time to time thought necessary." His colleague, Mr. Ashburner, goes further. He says, "I would make no exception in favour of articles published in English, nor would I allow the local Government any discretion to exempt certain districts or papers from the operation of the Act." It would be thus seen that by far the greater majority of the authorities consulted did not see much distinction between the English and the Vernacular press, that on the contrary, some of them thought that the former was worse, and that they would therefore put both under the same ban. But Sir Richard Temple, Sir Ashley Eden, and Sir George Couper, would make the distinction suggested by the Government of India. Sir Richard Temple spoke kindly of the Vernacular Press of Bengal, but entertained a very different opinion of the Vernacular Press of Bombay. He recorded the following D. O. on the subject:

I have considered the confidential reference made by your Lordship regarding the Native Press. Unless the Native Press of Bengal has got worse during 1877, I am not sure whether it can be called disloyal on the whole. There used in my time to be elements of decided loyalty in it. I used to extract the loyal and disloyal passages, and reprint them in parallel columns, in order to strike a sort of balance for my own consideration. I must also remark, with extreme difference that our impression used to be that the Government of India noticed assertions made by the Native Press which notice aggravated its importance. My opinion of the Native Press up to *January* 1876 will be found in my minute on the Administration of Bengal, bearing date January 1876. Whatever, however, the objections against the Native Press of Bengal may or may not be, they are much greater as regards the Native Press of the Bombay Presidency for the most part. In other words, the Native Press of Bombay is decidedly worse than that of Bengal. The Parsee and Guzeratee section of the Bombay Press is less objectionable—indeed, the Parsee section is pretty good, but the Mahrattee section is open to very grave objection. When I received our Lordship's reference I was actually preparing to take steps in a case which appeared to pass the bounds of tolerance. If anything were required at all in Bengal, it would be still more required in Bombay. I am very sorry to say, the model I would wish to suggest (if you really resolve to move) would be section 3 of Act XXX of 1876. "Dramatic Performances." Apply that section to newspapers published in the vernacular languages of India, especially clauses *(a)*, *(b)*, but not *(c)*. Also note the words "whenever *Government is of opinion* that" &c., &c., &c. Then take the sections from the *Irish* Act alluded to by your Lordship. Unless some such words as "*is of opinion*" be used. I should think that liberty to bring a suit afterwards would be dangerous and embarrassing. *With* these words, however, I do not think that the liberty would do harm I fully perceive the objections to excepting newspapers published in the *English* language; also I bear in mind that native newspapers may hereafter be published in that language, with all the faults now attributable to the Vernacular Press; still I apprehend that the exception must be made, and that the English section of the Indian Press must be left alone. I am very sorry and regretful that it should be found necessary to take additional powers by law respecting the Native Press. I do not advise any attempt to take security from Native editors or proprietors of papers."

On the other hand Sir Ashley Eden severely condemned the Vernacular Press of Bengal. We give the following extract from the letter of the Government of Bengal on the subject:

The Lieutenant-Governor believes that, although the native vernacular newspapers in Bengal do not represent native opinion, they have many of the a large circulation, and by constantly publishing wilful and deliberate falsehoods regarding the acts and motives of Government, they will sooner or later do much harm, especially as the habit of reading and taking newspapers increases, as it is now doing. Mr. Eden feels sure that there can be no greater sign of weakness than being afraid to face the question, and to put down with a strong hand what every one admits to be most mischievous and scandalous. The measures suggested in his Excellency's minute appear well calculated to repress the evil, and they have the Lieutenant-Governor's entire concurrence."

The Hon'ble Mr. Egerton is of the same opinion. The Punjab Secretary writes:

"Mr. Egerton is strongly of opinion that some action is necessary, and that, without unnecessary delay, the seditious and hostile attitude very generally adopted by the Native Press in India towards the Government should be prevented. He thinks that the liberty of the Press in India cannot be defended on any logical grounds, considering the position which the British Government is compelled to assume in India; and he entirely agrees with his Excellency in thinking that legislative action should be taken to empower the Executive to deal with cases either of seditious incitement against the Government or libellous attacks upon Native Chiefs, feudatories of Her Majesty.

While most of the local administrations supported the proposal to fetter the Vernacular Press, all of them, however, did not recommend the withdrawal of the judicial agency in the trial of the offenders. Thus the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs would proceed on the model of the Irish Press Act, which provides for a judicial trial. Mr. Ashburner would have a trial in a different form. He would take heavy bonds or securities, "which should be forfeited, whenever the Government may be of opinion, that the paper concerned is justly seditious." But he would allow an action afterwards. He says, "an action might be against Government to recover the money forfeited, but it should be only tried by a European judge." Col. Keatinge, Chief Commissioner of Assam, would also have a trial. He wrote:

The measure discussed in rule 3 is in its nature despotic and it cannot, I hold, ever be desirable in a country administered as India, is, to submit the direct action of Government to the opinion of a jury. I would consequently suggest that all such suits as those alluded to should be triable only by a special commission of one or more judges, who might be nominated by the Chief Justice of the Presidency in which the trial was to take place. This would I think, be a safeguard, and, if the provisions of the law were not at once extended to the European Press, I do not anticipate that the measure would be seriously unpopular with any section of the community.

But Sir Richard Temple, Sir Ashley Eden, Sir George Couper, and Mr. Egerton would have no judicial trial, and they carried the day.

Madras, the so-called "benighted Presideney," however manfully stood out for the light and liberty of the Press. Sir William Robinson recorded the following powerful minute on the subject:

A proposal to limit a useful liberty which has been conceded, with enormous balance of social and political advantage, to our native fellow-subjects in India for well-nigh half a century—a liberty which is educating the people in freedom of thought and independence of character, and is (Mr. Eden's dictum notwithstanding) highly valued by them—and to limit it with a distinction between English and native newspapers, and in a manner which can scarcely fail in practice to become very arbitrary, is a matter for very serious consideration. After giving the subject much anxious thought, I must declare myself unable to advise it. The difficulties and risks seem to me grave, and the safeguards which we already have are, if not insufficiently appreciated, not applied as they might be. I am quite unable to endorse Mr. Eden's estimate of native public feeling in India towards their Vernacular Press. On the contrary, I believe that to a man, the intelligent, cultivated, and influential classes—while deprecating its occasional vulgarity and extravagance—value their Vernacular Press and highly prize its liberty, for the same reasons which actuate their European fellow-subjects in the same interest; they do so under even stronger incentives and apprehensions than the latter. I am, therefore, satisfied that the hostile measures to which Mr. Eden would invite the Government and Legislature would only tend to extend and aggravate the disloyalty and alienation they are expected to mitigate; and while I can easily conceive circumstances under which this concensus of disapproval must for a time, be firmly braved, I do not think that there is sufficient reason at this moment for challenging the strongly hostile feeling and distrust which would assuredly be evoked even in those minds which are best affected towards our Government and race. A strong feeling pervades the native mind that we are unfaithful to our pledge and principles; and I can conceive no measures more likely to confirm this impression than those which may be aimed at what the intelligent classes have already come to look on as a constitutional privilege. There are disadvantages—and grave ones—in having existing discontent and hostile criticism formulated and circulated amongst the people; but on the whole, I think the balance of political advantage is in favour of an unmenaced Press even in India. Serious objections present themselves to my mind to the proposal to treat differentially the English and Vernacular Press. The existing race-alienation—spreading and widening daily—is serious enough as it is; and I confess that I think that some of the low radical writing of England, *ex. gr.*, of the Bradlaugh School, which is read with avidity in South India, is doing far more material mischief than anything the Vernacular Press is diffusing. A compromise of principle here would, I am sure, have a very bad effect. The proposals relate to two grounds of apprehension in respect to the Native Press—(1.) Corrupt abuse of the liberty of the Press for purpose of intimidation and the levy of black-mail in respect to private individuals, public officials, native princes, and the like; and, (2.) Its disloyal tone and spread of seditious sentiment. Facts in regard to a small section of the Press of America and of our own colonies—and even to some obscure prints in England—show that the Native Press of India is not alone obnoxious to the charge of occasional malicious and corrupt intimidations, but I am quite satisfied that the law, as it stands, affords quite sufficient protection to persons who may be unjustifiably assailed, and the frequency with which trials for defamation appear on our judicial files, both criminal and civil, shows that there is no distrust of its administration. The sum

holds good of public officials; and possibly in India—where public opinion is wanting, public morality low, and corruption rife—the fear of the indigenous Press is not an unalloyed evil. I cannot read the summary of Sir George Campbell's advice recorded on page 8 of the Viceroy's minute without feeling that the very existence of a Press worthy of the name—of a Press such as we require in this country as an exponent of native feeling—is at stake. Formulate the words of Sir George Campbell's recommendation as an affirmative explanation to section 124, A, give a procedure which removes what is termed "the *eclat* of a long prosecution," and place in the hands of a sensitive, irritable executive the power "to shut up newspapers" which it judges contain "mischievous and seditious libels on the Government," and you have a gagged ruined, and sycophant Press, at once contemptible and useless, if not dangerous. Under such circumstances, the judicial tribunals of this country would scarcely be entitled to public confidence by their constitution, while on the other hand, we might occasionally witness an unseemly contest between the executive and its nominee on the bench. As regards the proposal to introduce the provisions of the Irish Act—with, as I gather, some modifications in the direction of greater stringency—I do not think that the condition of things, social and administrative, are sufficiently analogous to ensure equal safety and consideration. In Great Britain we have a public opinion such as is entirely wanting here; Irish Courts are presided over by Irish judges aided by Irish juries, while the executive is more immediately under the observation of Parliament, in which Irish interests are fully represented. Every condition of this country presents a complete contrast as respects safeguards. Further—writing under correction—I believe that our law of sedition is more precise and stringent than that of Great Britain. On the whole I am satisfied that the conditions of this country present far greater danger to the reasonable liberty of the Press than the conditions of Ireland under similar legal restrictions. Warning and confiscation would practically mean suppression without hearing or trial in India.

His Grace the Duke of Buckingham thus energetically backed up Sir William Robinson:

Is the disaffection always confined to vernacular papers only? If it is, how happened it that some of the earliest warnings under Lord Canning's stringent temporary law had to be addressed to English editors of English journals? so far as regards the specific suggestions, but I dissent from the general policy, suggested in the Minute. I hold the Vernacular Press to be a useful indication of the under-currents which may be running through the mass of Indian population; that if any serious spirit of disaffection or hostility is increasing amongst the people, indications will float to the surface amongst the vernacular papers as surely as the dross is thrown to the surface of molten metal. Systematic attempts to excite hostility or sedition I would prosecute, but for this the present law provides in the Penal Code, and to my mind sufficiently; and, in emergency, should any such arise, there is the same power in the State to restrain the man who writes treason as the man who speaks it. It is worthy of notice also that the abuse by libellous and scandalous writing against individuals, to my mind much the most dangerous consequence of an abuse of the liberty of the Press, for it not only saps the foundation of good government and of society, but is directly and instantly profitable to the individual publisher by the blackmail he levies, is not touched by the suggested measures; it is left to the present law at the instance of individuals to deal with that evil, and I believe that to be the true policy, not only in that case, but also in the matter of alleged disaffection. Reading the extracts which have been culled through eighteen months to form this selection, I believe them all to be of the class which Mr. Eden has well characterised as "rubbish."

The Hon'ble Mr. Huddlestone of the Madras Council wrote as follows:

At present, I think we may safely say that we know the worst that is said of us, if not even the worst that is thought; and I do not think any one can deny that this is an immense advantage to the administration. Can we hope to retain it under the more stringent policy that is suggested for our consideration? I certainly think we cannot. Then what should we gain? External decency of expression possibly, though that even is not assured; but certainly an amount of smouldering impatience, dissatisfaction, possibly disaffection, which would only gain strength and consistency by repression of its place. The more I think of it, the more disinclined I am to advocate any advance in the direction of repressing the freedom of the Press. That the existing law is inadequate to punish defamation or sedition has not, I think, been proved.

Thus the Madras Government fought manfully for the liberty of the Indian Press, and it was so far successful that Madras was excluded from the new law. It would appear that Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the late Law Member of the Governor General's Council, was also opposed to the measure. In August 1876 when the question was first mooted by Lord Lytton he wrote: "My advice is, that when a fitting case arises we should enforce the law we have, and that we should not attempt under present circumstances to alter the law." Again: "It may be my English prejudices, but I have an almost invincible repugnance to stir in this matter except under the pressure of some necessity which not only would justify action, but would show us clearly what remedy was wanted." Sir Arthur Hobhouse's minute is at once calm, thoughtful, and statesman-like, and exhausts all the arguments both *pro* and *con*, that could be adduced on this subject. It is a document, of which the author, and the Government of which he was a member, might well be proud. We propose to notice it at length in our next.

It would be thus seen that the real thinkers among the governing body were opposed to this Draconian measure. They were Englishmen, and they could not suppress their English instincts and feelings and give their assent to it. Through what process have their colleagues passed, which has dulled their generous English instincts and prompted them to this ex-English measure, Heaven only knows! Nothing we submit affords a greater proof of the collapse of English statesmanship in India than the Vernacular Press Act.

## THESE BE THY GODS, OH! ISRAEL!

OH! WHAT a falling-off has there been in Indian statesmanship! Compare the statesmen, who founded and consolidated the Indian Empire, with those, who now rule its destiny, and what a difference is there! Clive and Hastings, though they felt no qualms of conscience in despoiling territories, still professed that they read the finger of God in history, and made it their end and aim to promote the welfare and happiness of those, who transferred their allegiance to the British Crown. As the British Indian Empire extended and strengthened, the statesmen who wielded the sceptre more and more distinctly recognized the mission of England in India to be to raise her in the scale of civilization, to revive her intellectual and political life, and to qualify her for self-government. First came the question of the employment of the Native agency. The early rulers of India saw that they could not hold and govern India with a handful of Englishmen, that they must enlist the co-operation of the Indians in the administration of their own affairs, that they must consult their sentiments and feelings in the enactment of laws and regulations. So Lord Cornwallis laid the first foundation of the fabric of the Native agency in state employ. This fabric has gone on increasing in size and height, one story being added to another, till it now bids fair to match the higher edifice of the covenanted service. Of course from the very condition of British supremacy in the East there must be a long distance between the two edifices, but the progressive policy of the Government is manifest. Then came the educational policy of the British Government. It found India, the home of Aryian civilization, enveloped in darkness, and it has steadily worked to pour in the light of the West. And this light is now spreading through the length and breadth of the land. Then law and justice ought to make no invidious distinction of race or religion, and the statesmen, who have built the British Indian Empire, have gradually but boldly operated towards that end. And last, though not the least, it is freedom of thought and speech, which constitutes the key-stone of the arch of the English political system, and the early rulers of India accorded the privilege to its children before they were quite ripe for it. Thus the guiding principle of English policy in the East has been progress and national regeneration. What a degeneracy, what a falling off has there been in it of late! The "confidential" minutes recorded by the several proconsuls and their councillors on the proposition of the Viceroy to repress the liberty of the Vernacular Press have given to the public their secret thoughts—their inner man. This is what some of them have written. Sir George Couper, who it seems aspires to be the typical Indian governor of the period, says, "that there should be one law alike for the European and the native is an excellent thing in theory, but if it could really be introduced in practice we should have no business in the country." In other words the enlightened policy of the British Government to sweep away distinctions of race and religion in legislation has been a huge mistake. Of course Sir George professes the most anxious solicitude for the welfare of the millions entrusted to his care, but he has no sympathy with the progressive policy of the past. He remarks: "No man has more at heart than myself the promotion of the welfare and the improvement of the condition of our Aryan brother. But I say that these objects are not to be gained—on the contrary, they are retarded—by endowing him with a privilege which is enjoyed by natives altogether differently constituted in every respect. And if we have gone too far in this direction, which I for one have no doubt that we have, it is better to retrace our steps. To me there is nothing more remarkable than the reluctance we evince to admit we have gone too far, especially in the direction of so-called progress." So Sir George would, if he could, put back the clock of improvement. The British Government in India has run too fast, and it is time that it should retrace its steps. What, the Indians to be raised to the high pedestal of western civilization and thus to be placed on an equal footing with the ruling race! The very thought is inconsistent—perhaps imprudent. The machinery, which has pushed the car of progress so fast, ought to be taken down and removed. And what would be the best way of effecting this object? Sir George Couper thus answers the question himself. He says, "I think most men who have anxiously considered the subject will agree that we have carried State education too far, and that if the wealthier classes of the native community desire a high English education they should be required to pay for it themselves." Yes, State education is a mistake. Hear what Lord Mayo said on this subject. His Lordship in his memorable address at the University Convocation of 1870 spoke to the following effect:

"There was a time, Gentlemen, when doubts would have been entertained as to the prudence and expediency of offering to the natives of India a wide-spread system of national education, nor were there doubts alone confined to India. Many there were in past times who held—and even men of authority and knowledge were known to express such an opinion—that the indiscriminate diffusion of education might have the effect of weakening Government—of making the rich and the great more overbearing and more oppressive, and the poor more discontented with their lot. But I believe that these notions belonged to the fossill era of thought. If they are still entertained by any number of persons, their fallacy is so well ascertained that the holders of them content themselves with impressing their views on their friends in private. Gentlemen, the course that has been taken in this country, with regard to this great question, was taken for no political object. Those great and wise men, who at no very distant time established that system, from which though still in its infancy, you have already so much benefitted, never waited to consider whether what they were doing would strengthen or weaken the hands of the Government. They believed that to offer the means of acquiring knowledge to the inhabitants of this great continent was a sacred and a paramount duty and they went forward in their work without fear or hesitation.

I am not without hope that perhaps in the establishment of the School, the College, and the University, we may be weaving a golden band which may bind in closer union the subjects of our Queen, be they dark or fair, whether they reside in the East or the West, or are members of those communities which are now bursting into life in the islands of the Southern Seas."

Such were the noble sentiments of the late Lord Mayo. His Lordship said that those who questioned the wisdom of the educational policy of Government did not dare express the sentiments, but here we find a responsible Governor deliberately telling the Supreme Government that "we have carried State education too far," and that it should therefore pull up. And an administrator, who thus advises the Government of India, is charged with the destiny of forty millions of people! But Sir George is not alone in his glory. If he would suppress English education, Mr. Ashburner of the Bombay Council would suppress Native political Associations. He says, "the seditious associations to which I have alluded are doing much mischief, and I would take this opportunity of suppressing them by making it penal to raise subscriptions, to agitate, political questions without the sanction of Government. Holkar and other Native Chiefs subscribe largely to the Sarvajanic Sabah, which, it is not unfair to say, is a seditious association." Yes, not only should the Vernacular Press be suppressed, but all Vernacular Associations should be put down. There should be no indegenous criticisms of the policy and measures of the Government or the idiosyncracies of individual officers of Government. Mr. Ashburner calls the Poona Survajanik Sabha seditious, though it was only last year thanked by the Governor General in Council for its loyal and meritorious exertions in respect of the famine in Bombay. We notice in another

column the despotic ideas of our Governors on the repression of the freedom of the Varnacular Press. These ideas are a fair index to the spirit which seems to actuate them in the administration of this country. There is no longer that magnificent liberality of sentiment, that proud nobility of thought, that generous sympathy, that refreshing large-heartedness, and that glowing desire to raise the Indian subjects of England to the high platform of English civilization and progress, which ruled in the breasts of the great statesmen that founded and consolidated the British empire in the East. The more we compare the past with the present, the more are we filled with disappointment and sorrow. *Oh! tempora! Oh! mores!*

## THE LAND IN BOMBAY.

THE STATESMAN is doubtless an authority on all questions connected with Bombay. Our contemporary has made the land question of Bombay his special study, and in commenting upon our article on the indebtedness of the Deccan Ryots published in our last, he thus corrects us:

The two problems of the "sowcar" and the "assessments" are very directly related. It seems impossible to make our contemporary understand that, instead of being, as he supposes, "heavy," the assessments of the Deccan are, and have been for the last 20 years, mischievously 'light.' What does he suppose it is, that makes the Marwaree banker (the sowcar) covet the land? It is the absurdly low rates of assessment thereon, and the long lease of 30 years at which these low assessments remain fixed. The four talooks in the Puna collectorate, in the very neighbourhood of that great city creating an enormous and most profitable demand for agricultural produce, were assessed under the last Settlement at but 7 annas 7 pies per acre; the average for the whole talooka of Indapore being but 5 annas 3 pies, or about 8*d* per acre. And the cultivators were sitting at these rates for 30 years, 1838—1868, all through the Crimean and American wars, while the annual value of their harvests could not have been less than 50 to 100 times the amount of their assessments. Now it was this very fact that made the sowcar covet their 'fields' as he did, and try to enmesh the cultivator so thoroughly in his toils—that he, the 'sowcar,' might appropriate the vast margin of profit that lay between the maintenance of the ryot and the assessment on the one hand, and the value of the produce on the other. We pointed the evil out in years gone by, incessantly. These low assessments were necessary 30 years ago, when food was 40 to 60 seers the rupee, but their effect ought to have been slowly watched, as well as the relations that were growing up between the ryot and the Marwaree. We made the 30 years' lease, and then straightway treated the land as 'off our hands' for that period; and to-day we are reaping the reward of such administration. The Marwaree did not sleep, though we did; and it is with him that we must deal, if we are ever to redeem the ryot. Were the *Patriot* to study the question and master it, our contemporary would find it to be a very different problem from what he in common with so many more supposes it to be.

While we readily bow to the superior knowledge of our contemporary, we cannot refrain from saying that others, who equally claim local knowledge, give an altogether different account of the effects of the land settlement of Bombay.

When the periodic settlement was first introduced into Bombay the Court of Directors in a despatch dated the 27th March 1844, laid down the principle on which the land revenue should be fixed. They stated that the right of the Government was "to a share of the surplus produce after payment of the expenses of cultivation." Again in 1856 they remarked as follows; "The officers engaged in the duty of fixing the assessment should always bear in mind that the right of Government is not a rent, which consists of all the surplus produce after paying the cost of cultivation and the profits of agricultural stock, but is a land revenue only, which ought if possible, to be so lightly assessed as to leave a surplus or rent to the occupier, whether in fact he lets the lands to others, or retains it in his own hands." But how widely have those wise instructions been departed from, will be seen from the following facts. In the Konkan districts the Government assessment we are told absorbs from one-third to one-half of the gross produce, which is rack-renting in the worst sense of the term. In the Desh Districts we are informed the ryot is enabled to continue the cultivation of land from year to year, not because he receives any fraction of the proprietor's rent, or true farmer's profits, but chiefly, if not solely, because he earns the wages of himself and family in its cultivation. In fact, there is no surplus produce left after paying the costs of cultivation, (including his wages and the charge for the renewal of agricultural stock,) and the assessment of Government. No surplus produce is left, and logically there can be no rent. In many cases, the ryot has to provide for the payment of the assessment from other sources, and his only remuneration consists in the wages of his own labour. We will give a few details in support of these statements. The following return shews the acres and assessment of different villages in the Talooka of Sholapore according to the former and present revised settlement:

| Names and villages. | Former Survey and Assessment. Acres & Goontas | Amount. of Assessment. | Present Survey and Assessment. Acres & Goontas | Amount. of Assessment. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kashe Koombhari. | 12783 | 2605 | 13705 | 8596 |
| Mowje Legan ... | 6349 | 2131 | 6633 | 6114 |
| ,, Ladepore... | 1078 | 344 | ... | 821 |
| ,, Tarlgan ... | 634 | 376 | ... | 728 |
| ,, Lhelgi ... | 2601 | 692 | 2183 | 1981 |
| ,, Dahitue ... | 2414 | 647 | 2241 | 1798 |
| ,, Mardee ... | 2320 | 1103 | 2661 | 2350 |
| ,, Oulhe ... | ... | 1434 | ... | 2889 |
| ,, Lawleshwar | 3444 | 1452 | 3763 | 2645 |
| ,, Kondi ... | 2133 | 585 | 2361 | 1258 |

But the above general statement is not a correct measure of the statement in the case of individual ryots. The Poona Survajanik Sabha published in 1874 a report on the effects of the land settlement of Bombay, from which we glean the following particulars: The Sabha cites certain individual cases to shew the incidence of the land assessment. Thus four ryots in Dapoodee, who paid under the first settlement Rs. 43 on their holdings, have now been assessed at Rs. 129, being an increase of 200 per cent. A ryot in Kedgaum, who paid Rs. 125 before, has now been assessed at Rs. 400, being an increase of more than 225 per cent. Four ryots in Nandgaum, who paid before Rs. 48 on their holdings, have now to pay Rs. 128, being an increase of more than 175 per cent. Six ryots in Pargaum, who before paid Rs. 54, have now to pay Rs. 166, being an increase of more than 200 per cent. Thirteen ryots holding 42 numbers at Rahu, who were previously assessed at Rs. 511, have now to pay Rs. 1, 157, being an increase of 210 per cents. Five ryots in Pimpulgaum holding 17 numbers who formerly paid Rs. 263, have now been assessed at Rs. 520-8 being an increase of nearly 200 per cent. Four ryots in Dalimb holding 21 numbers, who previously paid Rs. 107, have now to pay Rs. 290, being an increase of nearly 300 per cent. Seven ryots in Boree Aindee, holding 11 numbers, who were formerly assessed at Rs. 210, have now to pay Rs. 446-8, being an increase of more than 200 per cent. From the whole of the evidence collected by the Sabha, it appears, as the Commitee remark, that excepting a portion of the Khandiesh District, and the Khed Talooka in the Poona District, the complaint on the part of the ryots is all but unanimous, that their present condition is worse than it was about 10 or 15 years ago. The various reasons assigned for this altered state of things by the witnesses examined by the Sabha may be summed up as follows:

(*a*) Rains are scanty and irregular. (*b*) The Revenue instalments are less in number than before, and are not properly adjusted. (*c*) Heavy interest on arrears of revenue and a heavy fee on notice served are exacted. (*d*) The rise in wages has not been proportionate to the rise in prices. (*e*) Goyaran numbers forming the village common have been encroached upon, and turned into private pastures. (*f*) Kharab or inferior soils unassessed before have been separately assessed of late. (*g*) Remissions are not allowed in bad years. (*h*) Tacavee advances are not made. (*i*) The Ryot's ownership in land is put to sale often in bad years, and for small arrears. (*j*) In some districts timber and firewood cannot be cut down by the ryot though growing on his own field without the Collector's permission. (*k*) In the Mawal and Konkun Districts, land freely used before for securing *rab* for the rice land is assessed, instead of being enjoyed as appendant to the rice land as before. (*l*) The indebtedness of ryots has increased. (*m*) Owing to the short intervals of the law of limitation, the pressure of debt is felt more heavily than before by the ryots. The compulsory renewal of the debt takes place sooner, and on terms more disadvantageous to the ryot. (*n*) Boundary marks have to be kept up at the ryot's expense. (*o*) The local cess has been levied before the 30 years' terms expired, in the teeth of the assurance that all cesses on land were abolished. (*p*) Cattle and implements of husbandry are sold by auction for small arrears and in bad years. (*q*) While allowance is not made for land washed away, alluvial accretions are separately numbered, and heavily assessed. (*r*) There is less occupation and employment now than before, *i. e*, 30 years ago, in other than purely agricultural pursuits. The many thousands of young advanturers, to whom the armies and services of the Peishwa and the great Maratha Chiefs furnished employment before, are now without any other resource. Those who were previously engaged in numbers in the manufacturing industries find of late their occupation gone, and even the great railway works have been finished. (*s*) By reason of forest laws, the ryots cannot get timber and firewood without charge, and fuel has become dear for the same reason. (*t*) The rates of the new assessment are oppressively heavy in all parts. (*u*) In the Konkan and Mawal Districts, assessment is levied upon *Warkas* land whether it lies fallow or is cultivated. (*v*) In the same Districts, *Bagayat* assessment is fixed on the measurement of the land itself, whether any trees grow there or not, instead of fixing the assessment as before in proportion to the number of trees growing on the land. (*w*) A tax has been recently levied in the Tanna District from fishermen, for drying their fishes on the sea-shore. In the same District a security is demanded from the poor ryots or the punctual payment of the revenue."

It will be seen from the above summary that the land settlement has much to do with the miseries of the poor ryot in Bombay. There is one point in our contemporary's remarks, which is not quite reconcilable with fact. If the land assessment was not heavy, what was it that drove the ryot into the hands of the *sowcar*? Say what others may, we cannot admit that the ryot is habitually an improvident or extravagant man. It is only when he cannot make the two ends meet, he has recourse to the mahajun or soucar for aid to eke out his existence, and because he has very little surplus from the profits of cultivation for the repayment of his debt, he plunges deeper and deeper into it as years roll on. When he has good seasons, he sees some bright rays of hope, but as the seasons are capricious, he sees darkness all around when the heavens are unpropitious. We think the Poona Sarbhajanik Sabha has given a fair and faithful account of the Bombay peasantry. It is clear from the evidence collected by the Sabha that it is the want of means, which forces the ryots to have recourse to the sowcar, but if the assessment had been light and the profits of agriculture adequate, surely he would not have allowed himself to be bound hand and foot to the soucar. This is a point which we would invite our contemporary to solve.

## THE SALT TAX IN INDIA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Daily News* makes some startling disclosures regarding the negotiations of our Government with some of the Native Princes regarding the Salt tax. He says, "that every body is agreed that the Indian Customs line is a barbarous abomination, which ought to be swept away," though he adds that the English politicians ought to bear in mind that the obstructive institution owed its origin to the salt monopoly of our Government. Now, the Native States levy a very light salt duty, and the question has therefore arisen what is to be done to prevent the removal of the preventive cordon, which results in British territory being flooded with cheap salt? The scheme, which it is believed, says the correspondent, is now being urgently but secretly pressed is to insist on the Native States levelling up their salt taxes to our standard. "There are," he writes, "grounds for believing that, to this end, persuasions, enticements, and probably threats, have been assiduously applied to the protected Princes and their Durbars during the last twelve months. And this systema ic pressure does not seem to have been left to the ordinary political officers, many of whom, like their nobler minded predecessors—the Henry Lawrences, Lows, and Sleemans of the last generation are accustomed to consider that Princes and Chieftains with whom we have made treaties and cultivated alliances,

have some rights of their own, some claim to preserve their autonomy; and, furthermore, that if these native rulers see their duty aright they are under obligation to defend their subjects from fiscal pressure of such an extraordinary and extraneous character, a pressure that is to be exercised against them solely in the interest of the ever-encroaching Paramount Power. Hence two picked revenue officers have had this business of levelling up the salt tax of native States, more especially given into their hands. The Bengal civilian charged with this duty in Northern India, and more directly under the Supreme Government is eminent both as a man of science and as an official, but he has had no experience as a political officer. The one who is said to be dealing with this business within the limits of the Bombay Presidency is of the order known as "an able revenue officer," peremptory in manner and hard of hand. Readers of Indian newspapers will see that already there has been a salt riot in Cambay, a small Native State, where the weak Nawab appears to have speedily succumbed to the pressure, and closed the salt pans within his boundaries, thereby exasperating his subjects into a violent outbreak. Many impecunuous Princes may be only too ready to catch at a good excuse—the irresistible pressure of the Imperial power—in order to swell their revenues; but we submit that the general duty laid on that Imperial power of protecting the population in non-British India, is very ill carried out by our aiding any Native Prince to squeeze out of his helpless ryots more than he would, if left to himself, venture to demand." The writer adds: "I am compelled to make our strictures and warnings rather vague, but it is just this inevitable and sinister condition of affairs to which we are anxious to draw attention. Whatever is being done in this matter is being done underground. Possibly in six months' time we may hear a flourish of trumpets from Calcutta, declaring that the Inland Customs Line, a relic of barbarism—which, by the bye, it is not, for it is our own creation—has been swept away. But let our Anglo-Indian financiers of the Viceregal Council be compelled—beforehand if possible—to make a clean breast of it, and to let us know by what arts and on what terms, this great reform has been or is to be carried out; and it will, we fear, assume a much less magnanimous aspect. The Native Princes and their Ministers are really helpless when their interests and the claims of their own people come into collision with that inexorable and overbearing Imperialism, which is now the fashion in the Government of India." We too have heard something about this salt business, but our information is vague. We have heard that the Maharaja of Jeypore put himself in sack cloth and ashes when he signed away his share in the Sambhour Lake, that the Maharaja of Bharutpore, who had fallen into ill odour with our Government owing to certain circumstances, has recovered its favour by making salt concessions, and that other native princes have also submitted to like pressure. Of course we have no authentic information on the subject, but as the matter has been ventilated in Parliament we give the rumours as we have received them. One thing is, however, clear. By taking over the salt business of the Native States the British Government will extend its own monopoly through the length and breadth of the country, and the subjects of the Native States will necessarily be taxed at the rate levied in British territory. Is this fair, equitable, and righteous? We appeal to Parliament to answer this question.

**The Government of India, it would seem, would not rest content with salt. It proposes to interfere with opium cultivation also. The correspondent writes:**

"I have spoken only of Salt but the grand reform which Lord Lytton's Council is pushing through, greatly at their weak neighbours' expense, must affect several other staple products of the Native Principalities. One large Native State, conveniently managed during a minority, is being pressed hard to give up or forbid the cultivation of opium in its territory. It may be for the greater happiness of the human race that rather less opium should be grown; but it ill becomes the Government of India, however, much its financial solvency may be bound up with the opium revenue, to seek to enhance that revenue by forcibly suppressing competition. Cause has at least been shown for inquiry, and the authorities in India must not be allowed to exercise Imperial pressure over protected and tributary States for such purposes as have been indicated, while the Imperial Government and Parliament are kept in the dark until it is too late for their interference."

The Native Princes of India are perhaps the most helpless creatures under the sun. They are entirely at the mercy of the British Government. A simple request from a sub-assistant political officer is indeed graver than a mandate from the Crown itself in any other country, and when the Government directly makes a proposal they dare not say "no." We do hope that Parliament will bear in mind this peculiar position of the Native States of India in considering this salt and opium question.

## LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

MR. GLADSTONE moved his motion in the House of Commons about the Vernacular Press Act on the 23rd instant. The following is a telegraphic summary of the debate:

*London, July* 24.—In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Gladstone brought forward his motion on the Vernacular Press Bill. He condemned the precipitation and secrecy with which the Act had been passed, and denied that the native Indian Press were disloyal in their writings, and disclaimed any intention of appealing to the British Government to the discredit of the Indian Government. The resolution was therefore of the mildest character, and its rejection would imply approval of the measure of the Indian Government. Sir George Campbell regretted the mildness of the resolution. Mr. Smollett regretted that the whole of the Indian press were not equally restrained. Sir Stafford Northcote said that the motion was unwise, and would weaken the influence of the Indian Government, nevertheless they should be requested to report regularly. Mr. Gladstone rejected this assurance, because he had (? he said) reports would be three years old. The motion was negatived by 208 against 152.

The following further particulars were received by the *Bombay Gazette*:

*Bombay, July* 25.—A special telegram from London to the *Bombay Gazette* supplements Reuter's account of the proceedings in the House of Commons on the Vernacular Press Bill. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Fawcett and Sir Henry James all condemned the secret proceedings of the Government of India. Mr. Gladstone said that these peculiar proceedings practically forced Lord Salisbury's hand. He disapproved of the difference made between the English and Native Press. The subsequent division, was almost entirely a party affair.

For many years past an Indian motion was not made in a fuller House than what Mr. Gladstone commanded on this question. There were no less than 360 members present. This of itself was a great triumph. The division was also significant. The Government had a majority of only 56. The question, as the *Bombay Gazette's* correspondent says, was made a "party affair"; defeated though Mr. Gladstone was, he commanded a very respectable minority; possibly the Irish contingent, so much cried down in India, swelled the force; and when it is seen that one-fourth of the House, representing the advanced and liberal section of the English nation, has pronounced the measure of the Government of India as retrograde, tyrannical and un-English, it is a sufficient condemnation.

Sir George Campbell characterized Mr. Gladstone's Resolution as a most mild one. We give its words below:

To move an address praying Her Majesty graciously to give directions that all proceedings which may be taken under the Indian Vernacular Press Act may be reported to the Secretary of State, and laid before Parliament.

The Resolution, from the wording of it, was rather bare, but Mr. Gladstone's speech doubtless filled in the outline. Possibly he had purposely framed it in that form in order to carry the Government with him, but he was disappointed. Be that as it might, he has done a service, for which all India ought to feel grateful to him. We hope the chief towns in India will unite and vote him an address of thanks. We will notice the debate at length, when we receive the full report.

WE BELIEVE last week's rains have been general, and are justly prized by our agriculturists as golden showers. According to Mr. Elliott's report last Friday's rain was very extended. He thus telegraphs on the 26th instant: "Heavy rain has fallen in Orissa, Southern and Western Bengal. Thirty-one-tenths were registered at Akyab to-day, twenty-three-tenths at Chittagong, twenty-four-tenths at Calcutta, twenty-two-tenths at False Point and eleven-tenths at Cuttack. This gives good rain to districts where rainfall has hitherto been generally below the average. Very light showers fell during the day in the Deccan, Southern India, Behar and at Easterly Stations of North-Western Provinces. Heavy rain occurred at the Hill Stations, sixty-two-tenths recorded at Mussoorie, moderate rain fell in Western India. The only heavy rain experienced was forty-three tenths at Surat, two inches Neemuch, eleven-tenths at Khundwa."

WE ARE informed that Benigopal Mookerjea, late Head-Clerk of the Road Cess Department, Krishnaghur, charged with embezzlement, has been convicted and sentenced to transportation for life. We are told that defalcations to the tune of about a lakh of rupees, dating from 1872, have been discovered. All property movable and immovable belonging to Benigopal has been attached, but we are informed that it will not fetch one-fourth of the amount missing. Who will make good the loss? We are really sorry for Mr. Stevens.

WE ARE REQUESTED to draw attention to a notice in another column of the National Indian Association intimating a meeting of the Association at the Town Hall this afternoon, to which the public are invited.

In connection with this Association we desire to mention that we have received a pamphlet issued by the London Committe containing important information of the courses and terms of study at various schools in England, expressly arranged for the benefit of Indian youths proceeding thither for education. Accompanying this pamphlet is a circular from the Bengal Branch inviting native gentlemen, who may desire to proceed or send their boys to England, to place themselves in communication with the Secretaries with a view to their securing introduction to the parent Association, the Committee of which is prepared to receive them on arrival and give them all necessary advice and assistance.

The Bengal Branch, we are glad to observe, is usefully employing itself by organizing visitation of female schools with the view of improving the mode of teaching, by the preparation of books suitable for zenana reading, and by training teachers for the zenana.

MR. J. DACOSTA, retired senior partner of Messrs. Ashburner & Co. of this city, now in England, is quietly serving India. He takes a lively interest in Indian questions, and does his best to keep M.Ps. and the press of England informed of the real bearings of Indian questions, which from time to time engage their attention, by indicting letters and publishing pamphlets. During the last two years he has published pamphlets on Indian Finance and Taxation, on Irrigation, on the Land Question, on Indian Famine, and his last publication before us is a pamphlet on the Vernacular Press Act. It consists of forty pages, in which he reviews the policy of the Vernacular Press Act, the subjects of criticism in the Native Press, and the correspondence between the Government of India and the Secretary of State regarding the Act. This pamphlet was published on the eve of Mr. Gladstone's motion and intended to put before M.Ps. in a compendious and readable form the whole history of the question. Mr. Dacosta has perfomed his task well, and deserves our gratitude for taking so much pains in enlightening the British public on Indian questions solely from philanthropic motives. We wish other Anglo-Indians were equally mindful of the country, which has enriched them.

THE ENGLISHMAN is justly indignant with the Calcutta Municipality for the heavy tax it has

imposed upon the inhabitants of this town in the shape of night-soil fees. It is quite true that "the sums now exacted from house-holders on this pretext are not only in many cases six, eight, or even ten times as much, as the same services cost before the Municipal Commissioners interfered in the matter, but in some instances they are about half as much as all the other taxes put together." But our contemporary is mistaken in thinking that this heavy assessment is due to the attempt made to relieve the general fund of charges for works which ought to be debited to it. This was the case in the first instance, when the Health-Officer employed the mehters for bustee clearance and other conservancy work, but the Commissioners have long since disallowed it. The high assessment is due wholly to the new system, which was suddenly introduced by the executive without consulting the Commissioners, and in which they were backed by none more strongly than the Hare Street journal when the present incumbent, in whom the public have justly great confidence, was unfortunately not at the helm. Our contemporary remarks, "it is significant that the contempt of public opinion, of public convenience, and of equity, involved in these assessments, has occurred under elected Commissioners, who with all their exuberant talk, have shown far more real subservience in cases where their duty was opposition, than their predecessors did." The first count of the indictment we admit, but with regard to the second we cannot help saying that our contemporary does an unconscious injustice to the elected Commissioners. They had not been consulted when the system was ushered into existence; they did cry out when they came to know of it, but the press, particularly our contemporary's own paper, far from supporting, vilified them; they saw that if they should reverse the system, they would be charged with resisting a most important conservancy reform, and with a Government not over-indulgent to them they would probably have been immediately extinguished. They did not certainly see the beauty of such inglorious death. They consequently allowed the system to go on, but curtailed the expenditure as much as they could, and even then they could not make the two ends meet without greatly raising the rates. The hardships to the people have been very great, and ought to be remedied. In our opinion there is only one course open to the Commissioners. Let them abolish the present system and introduce a licensing system, by which the mehters may be brought under the control of the Municipality, while the house-holders will be left to make their own arrangements as to cost.

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IN VIEW of distress prevailing in the district of Dacca, the Philanthropic Society of the city of Dacca made an application to the Commissioner of the Division for the application of the balance of the Famine Fund of 1874, amounting to Rs. 30,000, to the relief of the sufferers, inasmuch as this balance is held for purposes of this kind. The Commissioner has given a very sensible reply to this application. He says:

"I have closely watched the appearance of the people and have failed to see any signs of famine in any one nor has there been an increase in the number of beggars as in 1874. This shows that either by borrowing or by living on their own resources people are getting on some how and I need scarcely say that as long as people are able to help themselves public charity is likely to do more harm than good."

The Commissioner then refers to the condition of the people of Calcutta and Chittagong, where rice is dearer, but where no relief movement is made. The Philanthropic Society we think made a mistake in making general statements without adducing facts in support. We believe there is distress in Dacca as well as in other districts, but the Society should have made a detailed report and given facts. Public charity, unless well directed, has a demoralizing tendency.

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ALL INDIA mourns the loss of Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney. His open-handed charities won him the popular title of Peabody of India. The *Bombay Gazette* gives a biographical sketch of the lamented deceased, from which we glean the following facts. Sir Cowasji was born in 1812, and was 67 years of age when he died. He received indifferent education at a school, known as Serjeant Syke's school, which corresponded with Mr. Shearborne's school in Calcutta. As in the Calcutta school, so in the Bombay school some of the men, who were destined to serve afterwards as the main pillars of society in the two cities, acquired the little scholastic education they possessed. Sir Cowasji laid the foundation of his great commercial knowledge in the office of Messrs. Duncan Gibb & Co. in the capacity of godown-keeper. He then carried on business as a broker and afterwards as a merchant, and thus raised the vast fabric of his fortune, which ultimately proved a source of so much good to humanity at large. The following is a list of the prominent charities of Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| University and College Buildings ... ... ... | Rs. | 3,50,000 |
| Hospitals ... ... ... | " | 2,50,000 |
| Street drinking fountains, libraries, and aid to the poor in small sums .. ... ... | " | 2,10,280 |
| Largess to the Financial Association of India and China ... ... ... ... | " | 2,00,000 |
| Schools and Dispensaries ... ... ... | " | 83,180 |
| Strangers' Home Society, Bombay ... ... ... | " | 50,000 |
| English School Fund Nowsani Mad-rissa ... ... ... ... | " | 35,000 |
| Relief to sufferers from famine or lack of work ... ... ... ... | " | 21,920 |
| Scholarships in Bombay University and Schools ... ... ... | " | 17,200 |
| Purchase of books, coins, &c., presented to the Bombay Asiatic Society and other institutions... ... ... ... | " | 17,100 |
| St. Thomas' Cathedral Fountain ... ... ... | " | 13,770 |
| Regents Park Fountain, London ... ... ... ... | " | 13,540 |
| Sufferers from the Franco-German War... ... .. | " | 10,000 |
| Girls School, Khetwady, Bombay ... .. ... ... | " | 10,000 |
| Pillar in Colaba Church .. ... ... ... | " | 7,500 |
| Indian Turf Society for importation of English blood horses ... ... ... ... | " | 5,400 |
| Albert Orphanage Asylum, London ... ... ... .. | " | 5,000 |
| Parsi Punchayet Oriental Languages Fund ... ... | " | 5,000 |
| St. Xaviers College Tower ... ... ... ... | " | 5,000 |
| Cowasji Jehanghir Latin Scholarship, Bombay University ... ... ... ... ... | " | 5,000 |

The most distinguishing feature of Cowasji Jehangir's princely generosity was that it made no distinction of race, country or religion, that it was magnificent as well as discriminating, that it was ready and unrestricted. Such a man is an honor to humanity. Sir Cowasji was sufficiently honored while living; the best tribute of respect which the Indian community can now pay to his memory is to cherish in grateful recollection the good deeds done by him and to follow his worthy example. The Government of Bombay has issued the following notification *in memorium*:

*Bombay Castle, 19th July* 1878.—It is with deep regret that the Governor in Council has received intelligence of the death, at an early hour this morning, of Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney, Knight, C. S. I.

Remembering the munificent charities and benefactions with which Sir Cowasjee's name has been connected during the past quarter of a century, the Government consider that this public recognition of his work is pre-eminently called for.

By his death the Government has lost one of its most loyal subjects, India a generous benefactor, and the town and island of Bombay one of its most upright and independent citizens.

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A FEMALE prodigy in the person of Roma Bai, a Maharatha Brahmin lady of Mysore, has appeared in Calcutta. She is a Sanskrit scholar and poetess. She can compose verses *extempore* and speak Sanskrit fluently. She has made polite literature her special study; it is said that she has 18,000 slokas of Srimut Bhagvatha by heart. She is thoroughly conversant with Panini, Part I. which is indeed the most difficult part of that most difficult grammar. She is young, about 22 years of age, spare-built, fair-looking, modest and graceful. She is unmarried and accompanied by her brother, who is also a Sanskrit scholar. She learnt Sanskrit from her mother, who again learnt it from her husband. She has been travelling partly for pilgrimage and partly for knowledge. She paid a visit last Friday week to Mr. Tawney at the Senate House of the Calcutta University. There were present, besides Mr. Tawney, Professor Gough and Pundit Mahesh Chunder Nayarutna. Mr. Tawney accosted her in an exquisite Sanskrit *sloka* composed by himself and revised by Mr. Gough, who is also a good Sanskrit scholar. We give below the substance of this *sloka*:

Mr. Tawney.—Thou who hast by thy learning overcome most profound Pundits canst be a human being, perhaps thou hast come from above, perhaps thou art the very Goddess of Learning (Saraswati) and hast taken human form to enchant men. Although a *Mlechha* by birth I have heard much of thy literary feats; I cannot invoke thee in fitting verses, because I do not possess poetic genius; I therefore offer thee my simple salutation!

Roma Bai replied in a *sloka* composed *extempore*. The following is the purport of it:

Roma Bai.—I pretend to no learning, I am a poor girl, and do not deserve the high encomiums which you have been pleased to bestow upon me; you are learned and wise, and your kind compliments are due to your own goodness. I am a humble votary of the Goddess of Learning, and I consider myself amply repaid for my visit to this seat of learning when men of your knowledge and fame give me their approbation and praise.

Then followed other *extempore* compositions. Pundit Nayaratna proposed a thesis on the University, Roma Bai composed two *slokas* upon it in Manini metre in ten minutes. Mr. Tawney proposed another on "Sovereign mistress or Empress," and the poetess returned two *slokas* in 15 minutes in Dirgha Chhanda, a most difficult metre. The Sanskritists present were greatly struck by the mavellous power of composition in Sanskrit evinced by this lady.

On Monday last Roma Bai paid a visit to the Hon'ble the Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore. There was a goodly gathering of Pundits and other educated native gentlemen on the occasion. Raja Shourendra Mohun Tagore first put a thesis on music, and she composed a sloka upon it in 3 minutes. Then Pundit Thakoordas Churamoni, uncle of Pundit Mahesh Chunder Nayarutna, proposed a thesis on woman, and she composed a *sloka* upon it in 10 minutes. But the hardest struggle came, when he gave a verse to be filled up, commencing with the words, "in the sky appearing as a headless swine." She took about half an hour to get over this difficult text. She followed the *antranavika* method, by which she took out every word of the verse given and adapted an answer to each. The audience were much pleased with the readiness of her wit, the fertility of her mental resources, and the chasteness of her diction. She conversed in Sanskrit for some time, and also recited several verses from Srimut Bhagvatha. Her intonation and delivery were excellent. The Maharatha Brahmin women in Madras and Bombay learn and speak Sanskrit. It is considered a part of their domestic duties that they should be able to read the *sastras* themselves.

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THE Government of India has resolved to establish a Forest School. The plan has been drawn on the lines of Sir Richard Temple's scheme. The school is intended chiefly for the natives of India. The Resolution says: "The Natives of India, whom it is extremely desirable to employ in all grades of the Forest Department, cannot, without a prolonged visit to Europe, obtain that systematic training which is necessary to render them competent to fill the superior offices, and for them, as well as for others, the establishment of a school in India for the scientific teaching of the principles and practice of forestry has long been looked upon by the Government of India as an object to be effected." The school will provisionally be established in the North Western Provinces. The Governor General in Council directs that the Forest Divisions of Dehra Dun and Jaunsar, situated in the Meerut Division of the North-Western Provinces, and comprising also the leased forests of the Native State of Garhwal on the Tons and Jumna rivers, as well as a small portion of the forests leased from the Bashahr State, shall be placed under a separate Conservator of Forests, and attached to the Forest School. Forest administration in India is not yet sufficiently established to justify the expectation that students will be willing to pay for the education which it is proposed to provide at the Forest School; on the contrary, it may in some cases be necessary to give advances of money to enable them to pursue their studies. Accordingly advances will be given, and eight scholarships of Rs. 15 each aggregating an outlay of Rs. 120 per mensem have been sanctioned. This is a move in the right direction.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

| | Rs. | As. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Anna Bhivrao, Esq., Sangli | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Moulvi Momtaz Hossain, Cuttuck | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| W. G. Deare, Esq., Jhenidah | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Moulvi Abdul Hye, Begoosarai | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Baboo Ramdoyal, Jullunder City | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, Beesombhar Bose, Howrah | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, Lokenath Surmah, Seebsagar | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| ,, Hurry Churn Ghose, Banka | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| ,, Hurry Nath Singh, Saidpoor | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| ,, Nemy Churn Newgy, Cuttuck | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| ,, Jogendra Nath Chatterjee, Sonapoor | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| ,, Moorally Dhur, Arrangabad | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| ,, Jodoonath Bose, Jonardonpore | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, Khetter Mohan Roy, Gaokhally | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| ,, Bhagut Lal Missre, Bhaugulpore | 3 | 8 | 0 |
| ,, Jogot Doorlub Banerjea, Barh | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| ,, Mohesh Chunder Banerjea, Bankoorah | 5 | 0 | 0 |

# Government Notifications

**Calcutta Gazette,**—*July* 24, 1878.

GENERAL.—The services of Baboo Mohanund Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pooree, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Public Works Department Irrigation Branch, of this Government.

The orders of the 23rd ultimo, placing, temporarily, the services of Baboo Sree Nath Bhudder, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, at the disposal of the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, of this Government, are cancelled.

In supersession of the orders of the 30th ultimo, Baboo Koomud Nath Mookerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector, Pooree, is appointed temporarily to be a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Seventh Grade *vice* Baboo Mohanund Gupta, and is posted to that district.

The services of Mr. D. J. A. Campbell, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Nuddea, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Moulvi Abdool Wahab acted as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in connection with the Noabad Settlement Work in Chittagong from the 2nd March to the 24th April last.

Mr. W. H. M. Gun, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Nuddea, is allowed leave for one week to enable him to attend the High Proficiency Examination in Urdoo to be held at Calcutta in October next.

Mr. W. R. Larminie, Officiating Magistrate and Collector Burdwan, is allowed leave for three months, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 6th August next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. J. C. Price, Officiating Settlement Officer, Midnapore, is appointed to act as Magistrate and Collector of Burdwan during the absence, on leave of Mr. W. R. Larminie or until further orders.

Mr. E. B. Godfrey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bankoora, is allowed leave for two months and seventeen days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

The services of the following officers are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department.

Mr. F. St. C. Grimwood, Assistant Magistrate and Collector in charge of the Tajpore division of the Durbhunga district.

Mr. W. C. Macpherson, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna.

Mr. R. C. Dutt Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870.

Moulvi Mahomed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act VII (B.C.) of 1868.

Moulvi Abdool Jubber, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Patna, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870.

The orders of the 28th May last placing the services of Mr. R. H. Anderson, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Kooshtea division of the Nuddea district, at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department, are cancelled.

Mr. C. P. L. Macaulay, Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial and Political Departments, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 31st instant.

POLICE.—Mr. J. B. Birch, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Midnapore, is allowed furlough for one year under Section 7, Supplement F of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for a period not exceeding 15 days, under Section 10 of the Supplement, with effect from such date as he may be relieved of his duties.

Major H. E. Waller, District Superintendent of Police, Monghyr, is allowed leave for one month under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from such date as he may be relieved of his duties.

Major R. P. Davis, Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Bhagulpore, is appointed to act as District Superintendent of Police Monghyr, during the absence, on leave of Major H. E. Waller, or until further orders.

Mr. J. P. Sneyd, Assistant Superintendent of Police, has been allowed an extension of furlough for three months, on medical certificate, by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India.

JUDICIAL.—Baboo Okhoy Coomar Sen is appointed temporarily to act as a Moosif at Manickgunge in the district of Dacca.

Baboo Juggudessur Goopta is appointed to act as a Moonsif at Jajpore in the district of Cuttack, until the ensuing Dusserah vacation.

Baboo Poresh Nath Banerjee, Judge of the Small Cause Court, and Subordinate Judge, Patna, is allowed leave for three months under Rule I, Section 31 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved of his duties.

Baboo Abinash Chunder Mitter, Officiating Subordinate Judge of Gya, is appointed to act as Judge of the Small Cause Court and Subordinate Judge of Patna during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Poresh Nath Banerjee or until further orders.

Baboo Kapali Prosunno Mookerjee is appointed to act as First Moonsif of Patna during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Abinash Chunder Mitter, or until further orders.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MOONSIFS.—Baboo Lal Gopal Sen, Second Moonsif of Arrah in the district of Shahabad, is allowed leave for one month and 20 days under Rule I, Section 31 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. W. B. Gwyther, Apprentice Engineer, from the Third to the First Calcutta Division, in the interests of the public service.

2. Mr. Gwyther joined the latter division on the 15th July 1878, before noon.

# Advertisements.


### WANTED

An Overseer, under the District Road Committee, Midnapore—salary Rs. 80, and horse allowance Rs. 30 per Month. Applications with copies of testimonials will be received by the undersigned, up to the 7th August, 1878. No one need apply who has not passed as an Overseer in a Government Civil Engineering College, and has had experience in road works.

G. E. MANISTY,
Vice-Chairman.

### Notice

A Special Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held under Acts 2 of 1872 and 1875 at the Town Hall, on Wednesday the 31st July 1878. At the close of the quarterly meeting to confirm the minutes of Proceedings of the Jute Committee at a meeting held on the 28th June last.

ROBERT TURNBULL,
Secretary to the Corporation.

### CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

Wanted in the Water Works Department a good Mechanical Engineer experienced in Pumping Engines and machinery, Pipe laying, Plumbering and Water fittings generally. He must be a good draftsman, able to take the place of the Assistant Engineer on occasion, and to constantly supervise and direct five Europeans under him. Salary Rupees 300 per month for six months certain.

Applications in writing with testimonials to be sent to

JAMES KIMBER
Engineer to the Corporation.

### NOTICE

Is hereby given that under Section 67 of Act IV B. C. of 1876 Licenses for Carriages, Horses, Ponies, or mules, kept within the Town for the half-year commencing 1st of July 1878, should be taken out at once. Parties failing to take out licenses will be prosecuted without further notice.

SCHEDULE.

| | *Per Half-year.* Rs. | As. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by two horses | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| For every four-wheeled carriage drawn by one horse, or pony, or mule, or a pair of ponies or mules under thirteen hands | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| If more than one such carriage, then for every such carriage after the first, two-thirds of the above rate | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| For every two-wheeled carriage | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| For every horse (*not a race horse*) pony, or mule | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| For every race horse | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| For every pony or mule under thirteen hands | 2 | 0 | 0 |

NOTES.—Animals under eleven hands in height and carriages, the wheels of which do not exceed twenty-four inches in diameter, are exempted.

Notice is hereby given that the registration of Carts, Hackeries and other wheeled Vehicles without springs for the second half-year of 1878 will, under Section 83 of Act IV B. C. of 1876, commence from the 1st of July 1878, and that a fee of Rupees 4 will be required at the time, for each registration under Section 85 of Act IV (B C) of 1876.

M. R. SHIRCORE.
License Officer
and Registrar of Hackeries.

### NATIONAL INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

BENGAL BRANCH.

A Meeting will be held at the Town Hall on Monday, the 29th instant, at 5-30 P. M.

All friends of Female Education and of Social Progress in India are invited to attend.

M. S. KNIGHT,
Honorary Secretary.

### NOTICE FOR SALE.

The sale of the Putnee Talooks called—Auttee Chokkan Guddee Heerab Chapsarah in the District of Hooghly has been this day postponed from Saturday the 20th July 1878 to Saturday the 10th August 1878.

SWINHOE LAW & Co.,
*Plaintiff's Attorneys.*
*High Court, Original Jurisdiction,*
*The 20th July*, 1878.

By order,
(Sd.) C. T. DAVIS,
*Offg. Registrar.*

### FOR SALE.

The well-known large and spacious house at Benares, adjoining the Chowshatty Jogini Ghat on the banks of the Ganges, occupying a fine site, washed on three sides by the River, lately owned by the Peishwas, consisting of summer or underground residence, Zenana or family apartments, two suits of Boitakkhanas, out-offices, two towers and a flight of steps, with bulworks and abutments, from the bed of the river to the House, the whole occupying about one Bigha of land, now belonging to the Raja of Dighaputtea in Rajshahye, Lower Bengal, by whom it has been altered and repaired at great expense in the latest and most improved fashion. Open to offers above Two Laks of Rupees. Offers should reach the undersigned before the 30th September 1878, who will supply any further information required.

Dighaputtea Rajbaree,
Via Nattore, Lower
Bengal.

KALI DAS MOJOOMDAR,
*Private Secretary to the Raja of Dighaputtea.*

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| 189 | Children's Swing Cots, 3' by 1' 8", fitted with rods for mosquito curtains | 60 | 0 |
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| 285 | Camp Bedsteads in bags, black, 6' 6" by 2' 6" | 20 | 0 |
| 870 | Camp Bedsteads, with iron lath bottoms, painted green, 7' by 3" | 26 | 0 |
| 283 | Portable Bedsteads, 6' 6" by 2' 6", blue, with iron lath bottoms | 15 | 0 |
| ,, | Ditto, with cloth sacking bottoms, 6' 6" by 2' 6" | 15 | 0 |
| 289 | Camp Chairs and Bedsteads combined, maroon | 30 | 0 |
| 50 | Stump Bedsteads, 6' 6" by 3' 6" emerald and pea green | 25 | 0 |
| 51 | French Bedsteads, 6'6" by 3'6", pea green | 26 | 0 |
| ,, | Ditto ditto, 7' by 3' 6" | 27 | 8 |
| 644 | Ditto ditto, 6' 6" by 3' 6" emerald green | 46 | 8 |
| 103 | Ditto ditto, 6' 6" by 3' 6" | 46 | 0 |
| ,, | Ditto ditto, 7' by 5' | 57 | 8 |
| C2047 | Ditto ditto, 6' 6" by 3' | 17 | 8 |
| 584 | Ditto ditto, 6' ½" by 3' ½" | 50 | 0 |
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No. 102, COLLEGE STREET, CALCUTTA.

The undersigned begs to inform the Rajadhirajas Maharajas, Bahadoors, Zemindars, and the trade generally that they undertake to supply to the public imported and country goods and household requisites as well as all staples, and to dispose of and bring articles which may be required to be bought or sold in Calcutta. The transaction will always be *bona fide*, and best endeavour will be made to secure every advantage to their constituents on a charge of a small commission. As to terms of the commission and other particulars every information will be afforded on application to the undersigned.

The following medicines are available to the public at the office of the Commission. Mr. K. C. Chatterji's medicine for the cure of pills, and medicines for the cure of debility, chronic fever, and diseases arising from the use of mercury. For prices and other particulars please apply to the undersigned.

Calcutta, 20th July 1878. } KURRAL CHUNDER CHATTERJEE, *Proprietor, City Commission Agency.*

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মূল্য ১৲ মাসুল ৵০

২। মৃণ্ময়ী, অর্থাৎ কপালকুণ্ডলার উপ সংহার, ২ য় সংস্করণ (শ্রীদামোদর মুখোপাধ্যায় প্রণীত) মূল্য ১৷০ মাসুল ৵০

The book is a very good one. Written in a temperate tone, it is entirely free from the vulgarisms which disfigure many of our Bengali novels. The style is chaste and elegant, and the book interspersed with disquisitions on various subjects,—many of them very thoughtful and original. The characters are almost all such as we should expect to find them in real life ; and throughout, the book seems to be a faithful picture of Bengali society three centuries ago, unmixed as it was then with the conventionalisms that have crept into it now-a-days. The first meeting of Umapati with Muktakeshi, his love at first sight, and his courtship, are truly interesting, but their meeting after Umapati's miraculous rescue from the hands of the robbers, is still more affecting.

The book gave us much pleasure and we have no hesitation in recommending it to our readers, and in advising the author to continue his exertions and give us some more readable additions to elegant Bengali literature.—The *Calcutta Review*, January 1876.

ঐ দুই পুস্তক সংস্কৃত যন্ত্রের পুস্তকালয় ক্যানিং লাইব্রেরি প্রভৃতি কলিকাতার সমস্ত পুস্তকালয়ে পাওয়া যায়।

## Notice.

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*Sub-Divisional Officer, North Lakhimpur, Assam.*

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BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT

To His Excellency the Right Honorable
LORD LYTTON G.M.S.I.,
*Viceroy and Governor-General of India &c. &c. &c.*

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**Report by the Directors**
PRESENTED TO THE
*Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Company*
Held at Edinburgh on Friday, 5th April 1878.

The Directors submit the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December last :—

**Life Business.**

During the year 1877 there have been issued 1026 Policies, assuring £1,003.580, the new Premiums on which amount to £32,049 : 10 : 5.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 10 Endowments, were 280 in number, arising under 341 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amount with Bonus additions, to the sum of £299,863 : 10 : 6.

As will be seen from the State of Affairs annexed, the Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,711,876:11:7, being £105,446 : 17 : 10 above what it was on 31st December 1876. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

After paying the Dividend, the Reserve Fund will amount to £794,576 : 19 : 11, and the Premium Reserve to £302,671, 8s. 5d., together amounting to £1,017,248 : 8 : 4. At 31st December 1876 these Funds amounted to £1,082,768 : 11 : 10, showing an increase this year of £14,479 : 16 : 6.

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